

FRANK LESLIE'S WEEKLY JOURNAL NEWSPAPER

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NEW YORK CITY.—CATHOLIC WORSHIPERS IMPLORING THE INTERCESSION OF ST. BLAISE AGAINST DIPHTHERIA AND OTHER DISEASES, IN ST. ALPHONUS' CHURCH.—SEE PAGE 411.

FRANK LESLIE'S
ILLUSTRATED NEWSPAPER,
53, 55 & 57 PARK PLACE, NEW YORK.
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REPRESENTATIVE THEORIES AND PRACTICE.

IT is at once a truism and a paradox in political science that the weak point of Governments is always found in the place which should be their strongest part, because it is the part which determines their distinctive character. The weak point of a monarchy (we mean, of a monarchy properly so called) always resides in some undue extension of the monarchical prerogative; the weak point of an aristocracy lies in the self-seeking which, sooner or later, is sure to animate the counsels of a privileged class; the weak point of a democracy is seen in the faction and anarchy which have been the hereditary bane of popular governments in ancient as well as modern times; and hence it should be no surprise to us that the weak point of representative institutions should be found precisely in the place which is called to bear the heaviest strain and pressure. Representative government must needs be weak precisely in proportion as it ceases to be truly representative of the wishes and wants of the people, as duly expressed under the forms of the fundamental law which lies at the basis of all limited and constitutional government.

We are specially reminded of this fact at the present time in view of pending discussions, both in France and in the United States, having for their object an improvement in the methods devised for the purpose of securing a more genuine and complete representation of the popular will. M. Gambetta, for instance, has proposed that members of the House of Deputies in France shall hereafter be chosen from large areas of territory, comprising several representatives on the same ticket, instead of choosing them individually from a single arrondissement, as is now the custom prescribed by the French law. In this way he hopes to afford to broad constituencies the means by which they may extricate themselves from the narrow views and political trickeries supposed to be specially incident to small localities; and it is in this same sense that our critical contemporary, the *New York Nation*, has recently advocated a return to the plan of electing members of the House of Representatives by a general ticket, instead of the District plan now in vogue. To this effect it says:

"The Congressional District, as now constituted, we believe to be intimately associated with the abuse of the civil service, the rule of the Boss, and corrupt legislation. It has long tended to make political aspiration hopeless except to the rich, and to foster the system of purchase, even at the polls. It is favorable to the promotion of obscure mediocrity, and makes popular selection almost impossible."

This is a heavy indictment, and, as it affects some parts of the country, we believe it is an indictment which cannot be successfully traversed. The theory of district representation is excellent, proposing as it does that the functions and character of the Representative shall be brought immediately home to the business and bosoms of the people of a limited territory; but the drawbacks to which the theory is subject in practice are seen, first of all, in the demarcation of the limited territorial tracts which go by the name of Congressional districts, and which have made the word *gerrymander* a term of evil omen in our country from the year 1804 down to the present time. And when the system is so often corrupted at the fountain in the interest of a shameless partisanship, we need not wonder that the stream should be rendered turbid with the mud and mire of political corruption, after the manner described by the *Nation*.

The district system has for another of its evils that it limits the power of large minorities to protect themselves against the electioneering arts of even a small majority in each State. *Divide et impera* is as much the maxim of gerrymandering politicians as of diplomats and warriors. If only some system of plural voting could be combined with elections for members of Congress by general ticket, does anybody suppose that the colored voters of the Southern States would be without representation, as they now virtually are under the district system, or that in Republican States like New York and Ohio the disparity between the number of Representatives respectively elected by the Republicans and the Democrats would be as great as it now is? The State is a historical entity, an indestructible factor in our body politic, but the Congressional district has

only a "local habitation and name" for the transient purposes of each Congressional apportionment. The abuses and log-rolling to which the system may lead in practice are seen in the fact that, even as we write, the warring factions in the Republican Legislature at Harrisburg are jealously watching each other lest the one or the other of these factions may patch up an alliance with the Democrats, on an understanding that the latter are to be "considered," when the new Congressional districts are assigned!

And if there be evils in this piecemeal selection of our Representatives—evils which must be acknowledged even if election by general ticket be not acknowledged as a cure for them, and we are far from affirming that it is—there is also something like a political anachronism in the representative machinery employed for effectuating the popular will in the choice of a President and in the choice of the popular branch of Congress. In this way it comes to pass that living questions of the year 1880 and 1881, upon which the people passed judgment in the last canvass, are today remitted for decision to a body of Representatives who reflect the ideas of 1878, and it is not until more than a year has passed that the legislative sense of the people is ordinarily brought into correspondence with the popular sense expressed in the choice of the Executive Administration. That is, members of the House of Representatives, by being chosen so long in advance of the date on which they begin their functions, are often doomed to be the representatives of a past state of opinion, when living emergencies call for prompt and decisive action. It is to this fact that we ascribe much of the helplessness and imbecility which must be laid at the door of the present House of Representatives in dealing with the important questions which have come before it—questions of refunding the public debt, of counting the electoral ballots for President, etc. We are well aware that "obstruction" is sometimes as useful as "progress" in promoting the popular welfare, but it should be remembered that *too much* obstruction has always proved a most destructive force in politics. The forces of civilization and of enlightenment are, in the main, allied with a progress which is wise because it is timely, and it is with these forces, and not against them, that representative institutions should seek to work.

THE NATION'S WONDERFUL GROWTH.

THE people take a lively interest in the results of the census, which have been developed and published with unexampled rapidity under General Walker's admirable management. The figures are very gratifying to the national pride. In the first place, there is general satisfaction that the grand total of population has turned out to be more than 50,000,000, contrary to the advance estimates of some of the best authorities. As between a population of 50,000,000 and one of 49,000,000, or even 45,000,000, there can be no appreciable difference in the happiness or importance of the individual citizen. Nevertheless, most people are well pleased to know that we have reached and passed the point half way to the round one hundred million.

The rate of increase revealed by the new census is not less gratifying. It indicates the amazing future that is before this country. We have gained thirty per cent. in the last ten years. This means that, if the conditions remain favorable, we shall have doubled our present population at the end of twenty-five or thirty years. Blessed with peace, busy in working the apparently exhaustless resources of our broad continent, the United States will become, in the space of a single generation, a nation more populous than England, France and the German Empire combined are to-day. Between the Mississippi and the Pacific there is abundant room for the growth of a century to come.

It is also pleasant to learn that the greatest ratio of increase, as far as the older parts of the country are concerned, is found in the South. New England has gained fifteen per cent.; the Middle States, twenty per cent.; the Western States, so-called, which now may fairly be ranked among the old States, thirty-four per cent.; and the Southern States, about the material prosperity and progress of which there has been so much misrepresentation since the war, a little more than thirty-five per cent. In the friendly race between the sections the South is foremost.

In the Pacific States, and in the vast areas now under territorial government, the rate of increase has been abnormal. California, Oregon, Nevada and Colorado show an average increase of about one hundred and fifty per cent. Colorado, the youngest of the sisterhood, has almost quadrupled her population within the decade of years. In some of the Territories the result is even more astonishing. Dakota for example, which ten years ago had not more than 14,000 people within its

borders, has gained about one thousand per cent. and wants to be admitted as a State.

For many years to come, Congress will be kept busy with the applications of the Territories, and subdivisions of the present Territories, for admission to the Union. Unfortunately, in every case, the question will turn, not upon the merits of the applicants' claim, but upon the political effect of adding two new members to the Senate, one or more Representatives to the House, and at least three votes to the Electoral College.

RELIEF FOR POOR DEBTORS.

PUBLIC attention is being called very justly to the hardships inflicted in this State upon poor debtors through a wrongful application of the laws. In New York City the violation of the laws relative to the debtor class has reached an extent which is only equaled by its flagrancy. The Ludlow Street Jail is the "Fleet" of New York, and at no time is there less than a score of persons domiciled in it on civil processes obtained by creditors. It would be too much to claim that every one arrested in a suit for the collection of a debt is a martyr or is unjustly treated. But the cases of persecution that are without any justification either in law or good morals are too numerous to permit the continuance of a system which either visits punishment upon the guilty and innocent alike, or which, if there is any distinction, generally favors the wrongdoer who is more likely to be able to find means of making a compromise with his persevering creditor than is the unfortunate one who innocently finds himself without any means of obtaining relief. The statement prepared by the Sheriff of New York City, at the request of the Governor, shows that there are now imprisoned in Ludlow Street Jail, on civil process, nineteen persons, some of whom have been incarcerated for two and three years, and one of them since May 11th, 1876, nearly four years and nine months. All of them are imprisoned for an indefinite time, and, without some interference on the part of the courts or the Legislature, are bound to remain until they pay or die.

The most notable instance of the operations of the law, appears in the case of one Lee Wah—from the name presumably a Chinaman—who is held under an execution against the person for a claim of thirteen dollars, and has been imprisoned since December 14th, 1880. Whatever crime the individual may have committed—and it is not to be supposed that it was very grave, else a criminal and not a civil court would have taken action in his case—it must strike the ordinary observer that Lee Wah's case is a hard one indeed. If he should pay the thirteen dollars, he would be permitted to go free. Is it reasonable to suppose that he would prefer to undergo at least a month's imprisonment, which might be extended to years, when he could purchase his liberty at so small a price?

The great injustice in the law arises out of the facility which it affords to unscrupulous persons to harass and injure their debtors. Arresting a debtor is one of the simplest methods known to the law. A simple affidavit of the creditor, charging fraud upon his debtor, with a bond attached, secures an order of arrest, almost as a matter of course. Unless the judge is disposed to exercise his discretion with great care—and even then there is the widest opportunity for his being deceived—he may, and often does, sign an order for the arrest of persons who are absolutely innocent of any wrong. Unless the party whose arrest is ordered is able at a moment's notice to secure bondsmen, and—another very important matter—to pay a good round fee for the drawing and execution of the bail-bond, he is incarcerated without having had an opportunity to present his claims to the court and demonstrate his innocence. Even when the case comes up for trial, the defendant is too often unaware of the importance of making a defense, and when he thinks that he is only admitting that he owes the creditor the amount claimed to be due, he is admitting also the fraud with which he is charged. When judgment is taken against him, his person becomes subject to execution, and his only hope for release lies either in his paying the judgment or in the clemency of the court or creditor.

The courts too often, either through pressure of business or inadvertence, have neglected to inquire closely into the facts upon which charges of fraud have been based, and their carelessness has resulted in the unjust imprisonment of persons whose only crime was poverty.

Our judges, generally, are fully awake to the fact that they cannot altogether prevent injustice under the existing laws, and they are not silent regarding the desirability of a complete change in the statute. On several occasions, lawyers, who have offered motions for the release of debtors after long confinement, have received pretty sharp criticism from the bench. Judge McAdam, who has set his face strongly against this sort of persecution, not very

long ago stated from the bench that he was entirely opposed to the methods which have been adopted of trying to force from debtors the amount of their debts by persecuting and imprisoning them. And, further, that he would not permit himself to be used as a tool to harass poor persons who, having innocently got into debt, are unable to pay. Of course, the effect of this sort of persecution is not confined to the prisoner himself, but is often shared by his family, who are deprived of his power to support them, and by the public, who must support him in idleness as well as those whom he could, if the law permitted him, provide for. It is time that the Legislature should take the matter in hand and effect the reform which is so urgently needed.

THE CRISIS IN ENGLAND.

WHATEVER may be the merits of the Irish cause, there can be no question that popular sympathy with it has been weakened by the violent and obstructive course which its advocates have lately pursued in the House of Commons. Not content with employing orderly parliamentary resources in their opposition to the Coercion Bill, the Parnellites, appealing to the spirit of revolution, have resorted to methods of filibustering and to threats of personal violence, destructive at once of the freedom of debate and the rights and authority of Parliament; and had they been permitted to have their way either anarchy or the stoppage of the whole machinery of Government would have followed. The Government, in finally determining upon decisive measures for the maintenance of the Constitution, did nothing more than its simple duty. The summary action of the Speaker of the House in closing the debate is, indeed, without recent precedent, but there are crises in which precedents, out of sheer regard for the public safety, must be created by an absolute assertion of the sovereign power. It was not until the House had been in continuous session for forty-two hours that this decisive step was taken, and then, amid a scene of intense excitement, the vote on the introduction of the Bill was called, resulting in favor of the Government by 164 to 19. Of course, the Home Rulers were indignant at their defeat and the method by which it was procured, and their indignation was not diminished when Mr. Gladstone announced that he proposed to ask an order from the House that, upon the demand of forty members, the Speaker should put any pending question without debate, amendment or adjournment. The bitterness of the Parnellites was shown by the fact that one of them shook his fist in the Premier's face, while others pelted him with all sorts of unsavory epithets. Mr. Gladstone, however, persisted in his motion, and the Conservatives, having at a conference resolved to support the Government in every legitimate effort to put down obstruction, it was carried, after being slightly amended, by a practically unanimous vote. The Coercion Bill was then, under the new rule, declared urgent. These results, however, were not reached, until Messrs. Parnell and Dillon had been suspended for defying the Chair, and forcibly removed by the Sergeant-at-arms, and twenty-seven of their followers, who refused to vote, had been ejected in the same manner under a direct mandate of the House. The prevalent excitement was, not unnaturally, greatly intensified by these extraordinary proceedings, but the Gladstone policy seems to have the hearty approval of law-abiding citizens all over the realm. The debate on the second reading of the Bill is still in progress as we close this summary. The expelled Home Rulers, in a manifesto to the Irish people, denounce the conduct of the House, but advise the people to keep within the lines of constitutional action.

Meanwhile, there are growing apprehensions of a Fenian outbreak, notwithstanding the supreme council of the Irish Brotherhood have issued a proclamation, and placarded it all over the country, warning the people that "the time has not yet come" for open revolt. "Our present duty," says the Directory, "is to prepare, to watch and to wait until the hour for action comes." The authorities are said to have proof that the Fenian organization is very thorough and complete, and for this reason the vigilance of the military has been everywhere increased. With a view of giving an emphatic and impressive expression of the popular feeling on the land question, a convention of delegates from every branch of the League in Ireland is to be held at Dublin, and, unless the assemblage shall be interdicted, it is expected that some 2,000 persons, representing nearly 900 organizations, will be in attendance. Michael Davitt, who was sentenced to fifteen years' imprisonment for participation in the revolutionary movement of 1866-7, but was afterwards pardoned on a "ticket of leave," was arrested on Thursday last for violating his parole, and is now in the convict prison at Milbank, where he is ordered to serve the unexpired part of his term—some seven years. He has been one of the most turbulent of the agitators, having made several distinctly seditious speeches which would have justified the Government, long ago, in canceling his ticket.

VALUABLE CONSULAR REPORTS.

SECRETARY EVARTS has signalized his administration of the Department of State by causing reports of the condition of local and national industries and the commercial relations of the United States to be prepared by all our consular officers. These reports are, in many respects, the most valuable that have been issued from the Government Printing Office. In them one reads of the trade, com-

merce, manufactures and other sources of industry and revenue in every country and city to which we have representatives accredited. More and better than this, one also learns, from sources that are presumed to be authentic, of the business position attained by the United States in the family of nations. The esteem in which American securities are held abroad, and the favor that has met the introduction of American machinery, American fabrics both in the raw and manufactured state, American fruits, vegetables and provisions, and the thousand and one other necessities of life and business, are shown clearly in the three volumes before us. An emphasis, too, is given to our export trade by the statements of sales made in competition with local industries, and the importations from other countries, which is highly gratifying to our national pride. The distinctive industries of the chief countries and their dependencies are described by our consuls with more or less detail; where possible, comparisons are instituted with the same articles as made or grown in the United States; the amount and value of exports are given, together with the proportion sent to America, and in many instances an opinion is ventured touching the possibility of increasing our exports to the countries under consideration. Particular consideration is given to the condition of manufactures abroad of goods regarded as special industries of this country, as the tobacco monopoly of France, the dairy thrift of Denmark, the beet sugar, silk and carpet interests of Belgium; the iron, steel and coal trade of Germany; the silk and watch factories of Switzerland, and the cotton goods business of Japan.

Among the subjects discussed at greater length is the very important one just now of our commercial relations with Mexico and how to advance them; German tariff; emigration and imitations of American manufactures; our trade, particularly in cereals, with Russia; the steam shipping of Great Britain, France and the United States; the railway system of Scotland; the labor question in Japan, and the Canadian, Norwegian and American fishermen.

These reports are of vast value to our Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce, to planters and manufacturers, and to the reader who wishes to keep abreast of the progress of the day. The business of the world is shown, carefully analyzed. Channels through which American commodities may be pushed to greater use and consumption are indicated, and the possibilities of our future business relations with the whole world intelligently presented. The Department of State is certainly deserving of commendation for the compilation and publication of this commercial encyclopedia.

RECENT PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS.

PRESIDENT HAYES commenced his career as the National Executive by loud professions of sympathy with the work of civil service reform. He is likely to end it with an utter abandonment and betrayal of every pledge he has ever made in that direction. Nearly all of his recent appointments have been in direct conflict with the vital principle of reform in the civil service. He has nominated men to offices of the highest importance, not because of their superior fitness or experience, but solely for personal reasons—because they belonged to his little circle of relatives or friends, or because they were obnoxious to one Senator or another, or for some other equally unworthy reason. The nomination of Stanley Matthews, for instance, for a place on the Supreme Bench is without a scintilla of justification outside of the fact that the nominee is a relative of the President. Then, as to the nomination for United States District-Attorney for the Southern District of New York, what can be said other than this—we quote the language of the *Times*—“that to displace a capable and experienced officer to make way for a successor not more able, and necessarily inexperienced, merely because the former happens to be in sympathy with an element in the party which has not been uniformly friendly to the policy of the President, is to give the lie to all professions of attachment to the principles of civil service reform, and to bring the Administration down to the level of the political ‘machine’ which it seems desirous of expropriating.” In his army and naval appointments, President Hayes has shown the same conspicuous disregard of decency and propriety. He has not only set aside the verdicts of courts-martial in the cases of officers tried and convicted of drunkenness while on duty, but he has, in some instances, actually promoted the offenders, to the obvious detriment of the public service—and this, in nearly every case, for personal reasons. An examination shows that of sixty officers tried and convicted of gross offenses, and whose sentences were presented to the President for approval, nineteen only were confirmed, while forty-one were so mitigated as to retain the offenders in the military service, to the reproach and scandal of the army. In several instances, when the sentences of courts-martial were set aside, the offenses were of the most flagrant and scandalous character. We have been among those who have tried to believe in the President’s rectitude of purpose in all his official acts, but we are driven now to say that if he is honest as he claims, his methods of displaying his integrity fairly expose him to the suspicion either of lunacy or hypocrisy.

ECHOES FROM ABROAD.

THE prospects of a peaceful adjustment of the Greco-Turkish quarrel do not improve. The Powers are still haggling about a new conference, and meanwhile both Turkey and Greece are pushing their preparations for

war with the utmost activity and vigor—the former having suspended all payments even for salaries, in all the Government departments, in order to apply the whole revenue to military purposes. In the event of war, it is believed by many close observers that the struggle will have a much wider scope than has been imagined; that it will, in fact, involve Bulgaria, Roumelia and other provinces, and, possibly, unsettle all the foundations of Turkish authority in Europe. That Greece has the right on her side in the pending controversy there can be no question at all. She maintains that the text of the thirteenth protocol of the Berlin Treaty secures her right to a certain territorial aggrandizement at the expense of Turkey; that the line of the new frontier was guaranteed by the Powers, and that the latter cannot now ignore their own signatures. It cannot be denied that when last Summer’s conference assigned to Greece the provinces which she now claims, the intention of the plenipotentiaries was to make this cession absolute. At present, it suits diplomacy to interpret the article as a mere basis for future arrangements for which, if called upon, Europe would consent to offer her mediation. But the Greeks insist upon the fulfillment of the bond, and they say that unless they have fair play they will fight for it. If they are compelled to this course, not Greece but Europe will be responsible for the consequences.

Another rose-tinted report as to the prospects of the Panama Canal Company has been issued by M. de Leases. He tells his stockholders that a complete agreement has been arrived at with the United States in regard to his scheme, which is, of course, a fabrication; that applications have been made in all for 1,209,609 shares; that seventy engineers, superintendents and doctors have been sent to the Isthmus, and that steam engines have been ordered which will permit of the employment of a number of day laborers not to exceed 8,000. The entire capital required, he adds, amounts to 600,000,000 francs, only 300,000,000 francs of which have been called up, the remainder to be covered by the issue of obligations. If there is anything in bluster, De Leases will carry his point, but it is fair to add that he does not entirely confine himself to bluster; on the contrary, he is doing a good deal of hard, effective work, evidently having faith in himself and a good deal of confidence also in the success of his plans.

The reverses sustained by the British in their advance against the Transvaal Boers seem to have been more serious than was at first supposed. The insurgents are sturdy fighters, sound haters and good Calvinists, and they have the right on their side; but they will, of course, be beaten in the end, Great Britain being determined to keep the Transvaal at all hazards. Having acquired it by sheer force, in defiance of justice and fair play, she will resist all attempts of its people to recover their independence by any and all methods, however costly, which may be found to be necessary. Meanwhile, expressions of sympathy with the Boers continue to be made by Dutchmen in all parts of Europe.

It is intimated that Gambetta will be a candidate for the Presidency of France when it becomes vacant, and that he proposes to visit Vienna for the purpose of ascertaining the views of the Austro-Hungarian Government, and through it those of Germany, in regard to his candidacy. There is probably no truth in the latter statement.

A CONTEMPORARY sneers at the idea, suggested in some quarters, that it would be well to send Senator Bruce as Minister to Peru. He would be a vast improvement in every way upon Minister Christianity. He has a dark skin, but his life is whiter and his reputation a great deal cleaner than that of the man who now illustrates the exalted character of our civil service at the Peruvian court.

EVEN Denis Kearney approves the new Chinese treaties, showing himself to be more liberal and tolerant than the Democrats in the California and Nevada Legislatures, who have labored to secure an expression in favor of their rejection. Since Denis has gone back to his dray, and no longer has a following of “hoodlums,” he seems to have had a visitation of common sense as unexpected as it is unaccountable.

IT is expected that the submarine cable which is to place Mexico in communication with the United States and Europe will be completed within a week or so. The transmission of a message from here to Mexico City has often been an affair of seven days. In some instances telegrams from Washington to Mexico City have been nine days *en route*. With the new facilities, New York will be able to communicate with the Mexican capital in fifteen minutes.

THE contest for the Speakership of the next House of Representatives is growing in interest and vigor. The candidates prominently named are Messrs. Hiscock, of New York, Kasson, of Iowa, Kelier, of Ohio, and Reed, of Maine; and of these, the former apparently has the lead. Mr. Hiscock is well qualified for the place, having a good presence and voice, a magnetic manner, good judgment and fair familiarity with its peculiar duties. Mr. Kasson is, perhaps, the favorite of members who have been longest in the House, but the men who came in with Mr. Hiscock two terms ago, or one term behind him—and they constitute three-fourths of the brain-power of the House—are largely for the latter, partly from personal liking and partly because they believe they will receive more consideration at his hands than from any other. But there are 110 new men, mostly Republicans, who will come

in with the opening of the next session without entangling affiliations of any sort, and these will, after all, very probably decide the question of the Speakership.

WHILE the existing telegraph lines are consolidating, new enterprises are projected which may result in securing the benefits of competition to the public. One for commercial purposes is proposed between New York City and Chicago, and another company, already organized, announces its purpose to build lines which will reach all the important business centres of the country. The public will hail with genuine satisfaction every new enterprise looking to the destruction of existing monopolies.

AT last it seems probable that New York may have a Zoological Garden, patterned somewhat upon the London institution and the Jardin des Plantes of Paris. A company with \$2,000,000 capital and \$1,000,000 in first mortgage bonds is said to have been formed, and a plot of thirty-three acres on the west side of the Harlem River at One Hundred and Fifty-fifth Street has been secured. It is to be hoped that the facts in the case may turn out to be as represented. It is high time that we should have a zoological collection worthy of the name and of the metropolis of the country.

THE King of the Hawaiian Islands has started on a tour round the world, with a view of examining into the condition and coming into contact with the laboring classes in different countries, and securing, as a result, such a substantial population for his domains as may be attained by legitimate emigration. He is now in California, whence he will travel westward, visiting Japan, China, the East Indies, Egypt and various European countries, and then returning home by way of New York about next August. King Kalakaua is a man of intelligence and a wise ruler; but it may be doubted whether he will succeed in luring any considerable emigration to the islands over which he presides.

THE National Greenback Party proposes to meet in mass convention in Chicago shortly, for the purpose of resolving itself into a new political organization to be known as the People’s Party. The principles of the new party are to be comprehensive enough to embrace the malcontents of every other organization in the country; and with a view of promoting them Congressman Weaver and others will act as missionaries among the “outside barbarians.” These Greenback reformers do not seem to have learned that the country has no further use for them in its politics; but when they see their new party stranded as soon as launched, perhaps they may get something like a clear perception of that wholesome fact.

THE message sent to Congress last week by President Hayes in reference to the report of the Ponca Indian Commission embodies some very excellent suggestions, but they would have been more pertinent and valuable had they been presented and enforced by the active influence of the Administration at an earlier period in its career. It is satisfactory, however, to observe that the President does not seek to evade his proper share of the blame for the injustice done to the Poncas. In his message he says: “As the Chief Executive at the time when the wrong was consummated, I am deeply sensible that enough of the responsibility for that wrong justly attaches to me to make it my personal duty and earnest desire to do all I can to give to these Indian people that measure of redress which is required alike by justice and by humanity.”

PRESIDENT HAYES has used the Executive clemency towards the inmates of the penitentiaries more than any of his predecessors. The inmates of these institutions appreciate fully the advantage which his kindly disposition gives them, and now that his term of office is drawing to a close, there is a perfect deluge of applications for pardon. The friends of the applicants are also busy. The pardon clerk of the Department of Justice, who makes a preliminary report upon each case presented for executive clemency, is kept busy long after office hours in listening to arguments in behalf of convicts, and in filing the papers brought or forwarded in their behalf. Of course, the influence of this wholesale pardon of criminals—counterfeiters, illicit distillers, and the like—is most pernicious; but that is, apparently, a consideration to which the President never gives the slightest attention.

THE question of counting the Electoral vote has, happily, been settled without any serious contention. In the Senate resolution, regulating the action of the two Houses, the Democrats have abandoned something of their previous insistence, and the Republicans, while protesting that the rule established a dangerous precedent in that it authorized tellers instead of the Vice-President to count the vote, acquiesced in its adoption as necessary to prevent further controversy. In the debate on the subject, Mr. Blaine referred forcibly to the importance of reaching some permanent settlement of this vexed question before the next election, and gave notice that at the Spring session he should move for the appointment of a special committee to sit during the recess to consider the whole matter of the Constitution and the law with reference to the Electoral count, and he should suggest that the remedy to be proposed should take the form of a constitutional amendment. Certainly, something should be done towards the removal of this question, so full of possible menace to the public peace, from the domain of legislative contention, and it is to be hoped that the next Congress may give it promptly the consideration which it deserves.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Domestic.

THE River and Harbor Bill, as reported to the House, appropriates about \$1,000,000.

THE House of Representatives was engaged last week in discussing the Apportionment Bill.

THE Cadet Whittaker court-martial began the examination of witnesses on Thursday last.

In all, nearly 700 of Sitting Bull’s Indians have surrendered, practically ending his power for mischief.

It is said that there is not the slightest probability of the passage of the Eads ship railway scheme by Congress.

Ice in the Chesapeake Bay extends 150 miles south from Baltimore, being thicker than has been seen before for many years.

MRS. CAROLINE C. ALLEN, charged with ill-treating Mary Hammell, was, last week, sentenced to a year’s imprisonment and to pay \$100 fine.

MESSRS. WILLIAM H. WATSON, of Utica, and Henry E. Turner, of Lewis County, have been elected Regents of the New York State University.

THE Women’s National Anti-Polygamy Society have adopted resolutions urging Congress to no longer permit a polygamous lawbreaker to sit in the House.

THE Archbishop and several of the leading Catholic priests of Boston have issued an address expressing sympathy for the clergy and people of Ireland.

THE House of Representatives has passed the Senate joint resolution appropriating \$40,000 to aid in the erection of a monument to commemorate the revolutionary battle of Bennington.

THE temporary injunction against the consolidation of the three great telegraph companies having been dissolved by Judge Barrett, the combination was definitely completed on Thursday last.

THE Peabody Fund trustees have elected Rev. J. L. M. Curry, of Richmond, Va., General Agent, to succeed the late Dr. Sears. The next meeting of the trustees will be held in New York in 1882.

CHIEF IRON DOG, the Sioux Indian, who has surrendered to the Federal forces, says he was ordered by the Canadian mounted police to leave that territory, and it is believed Sitting Bull will receive the same orders.

A PROPOSITION, introduced in the Missouri Legislature, to amend the State Constitution so as to prohibit the manufacture of alcoholic stimulants in that State, has produced great consternation among the brewers.

THE Tennessee Legislature has taken a recess of ten days, after appointing a committee to investigate during the recess charges of bribery and corruption in connection with the election of certain State officers of that body.

FOR several weeks small-pox has been raging with great fatality in Jefferson, Union County, Dakota, a settlement about twelve miles distant from Sioux City, Ia. The railroad and postal authorities forbid trains to stop there.

PRESIDENT HAYES, in a message to Congress, recommends an appropriation of \$200,000 for the establishment of American naval stations on the Isthmus. The President has also sent a message on the Ponca question, urging that justice be done them.

THE House Ways and Means Committee has reported in favor of abolishing the tax on matches, bank deposits (including savings banks), bank checks, patent medicines, perfumery, etc. Should the proposition carry, the revenue will be decreased about \$10,000,000.

THE New York Assembly has passed the Bill prohibiting the consolidation of telegraph companies. In the Senate it was referred without action. The Ohio Legislature has passed a Bill prohibiting such consolidations, which are, therefore, now impossible in that State.

IMMENSE damage has been done in California by floods caused by heavy rains. The country around Sacramento was inundated, and the entire Sacramento Valley presented the appearance of an inland sea. Numerous houses were swept away, and there was a great loss of live stock.

THE explosion of a kerosene-lamp, January 31st, started a fire in Plymouth, N. C., which destroyed nearly the whole town. The losses amount to \$127,500. Thirty-three buildings were burned, among which were the Court House, Grace Episcopal Church and twenty-three stores.

THE reduction in the public debt for the month of January was \$7,382,168, and for the seven months ending Jan. 31st, \$50,172,727. For January, 1880, the reduction of the public debt was over \$11,000,000, and for the seven months ending January 31st of that year about \$26,500,000.

THE United States Senate has passed a resolution declaring that the President of the Senate has not the constitutional right to determine what Electoral votes shall be counted and what votes rejected, and that it is the duty of Congress speedily to take measures to secure an orderly count of the votes in future.

A REPORT to the New York Legislature by the State Board of Charities says that seventy-three institutions (including those under the charge of the Commissioners of Public Charities), contained during the two years ending September 30th, 1880, a constant population of about 20,000 persons, and received from the public funds more than \$4,000,000 during the same time, besides about \$2,400,000 from private sources.

Foreign.

A LARGE Russian loan will, it is said, soon be placed upon the American market.

IT is said that 130,000 twining cotton spindles are stopped in Oldham, England, by the present strike.

THOMAS CARLYLE died on Saturday last at his residence in London. He was in his eighty-sixth year.

SEVERE cold weather prevails throughout Mexico. Some persons were frozen to death at Puebla and Meteora.

GENERAL SKOBLOFF is moving on. He has occupied Askabad, and has dispatched a force of cavalry to Aun, a few miles to the southeast.

THE Ottoman troops on the Greek frontier number 100,000, and are the elite of the army. They are well provided with arms and ammunition.

A CONSIDERABLE number of Irish tenants have paid their rent during the past week, and there are signs of a general capitulation to the landlords wherever the reduction of ten per cent is allowed.

A THOUSAND colliers at Tyldeley, England, have resolved to return to work, but a meeting representing twelve thousand colliers, at Pendlebury, Lancashire, has resolved to strike for an advance of wages.

IT is now denied that Gortschakoff has resigned the Russian Chancellorship, and it is said that the twenty-fifth anniversary of his assumption of the office of Minister of Foreign Affairs will be celebrated at St. Petersburg on April 1.

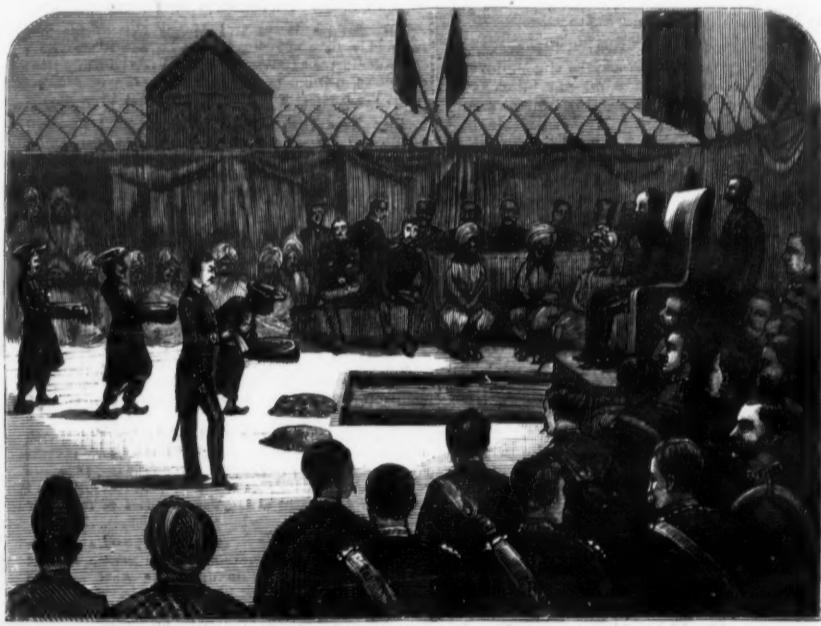
The Pictorial Spirit of the Illustrated Foreign Press.—See Page 411.



RUSSIA.—ARREST OF FOUR HUNDRED STUDENTS AT MOSCOW.



SWITZERLAND.—SUICIDE OF PRESIDENT ANDERWERT, IN BERNE.



INDIA.—MEETING OF THE VICEROY AND THE KHAN OF KHELAT AT JACOBABAD.



CUBA.—VIEW OF THE CITY OF MATANZAS.



RUSSIA.—FEEDING THE POOR IN THE PALACE OF THE GRAND DUCHESS CATHARINE.



SCOTLAND.—BURIAL OF THE REMAINS OF LIEUTENANT IRVING, R. N., EDINBURGH.

THOMAS CARLYLE.

TAKE away but the pomps of death, the disguises and the solemn bugbears, and the actings by candle-light, and proper and fantastic ceremonies, the minstrels and the noise-makers, the women and the weepers, the swoonings and the shriekings, the nurses and the physicians, the dark room and the ministers, the kindred and the watchers, and then to die is easy, ready and quitted from its troublesome circumstances. And this is how Thomas Carlyle elected to die. He wished to meet death as a visitor who heeded no ceremony, whose visit was expected, and for whom no preparation need be made. A great light, humanly speaking, has been extinguished—a sixty-ounce brain gathered to dust; the imparter of thought, and the wielder of thought, wielded after a strange fantastic fashion: a man of brain and muscle in literature; a giant, with just a touch of Thersites and a "wee bit" of the *diablerie* of certain French writers of the seventeenth century. Carlyle dealt Titan strokes. With a sledge-hammer behind his pen, he wielded strokes that sent the sparks of namby-pambyism flying into airy nothing, bright though they might be. To him work meant life, and life at its most earnest tension; and as a regard for fame becomes a man more towards the exit than at his entrance into life, so at the *mors Janus vita* did this great thinker become more conservative in the style in which he swayed the thousands who held with him in his masterful grasp of every subject he chose to grapple with. His writings riveted the reader in bondage, possessing as it did the fascination of the unexpected. He dealt with history in such a way as to render it, despite a certain grimness, fascinating as an Arabian Night's tale, while his biographies possessed a charm all the more subtle for their ruggedness. Those possessed of the "open sesame" to his intimacy speak of his conversational powers as being simply wondrous, albeit dogmatic; and nothing delighted him more than to come to fistcuffs with some literary coxcomb, and lay him low, smiting him hip and thigh. His light has gone out, and darkness reigns in that quaint old red-brick house in Chelsea, that Mecca towards which the great thinkers of a quarter of a century have made pious pilgrimage.

Mr. Carlyle's life has been an eventful one. He was born at Ecclefechan, Dumfriesshire, Scotland, December 4th, 1795. He was educated at Annan, and afterwards at Edinburgh, where he was a fellow-student with Edward Irving. After completing his education, Edward Irving undertook the direction of a school at Kirkcaldy, and thither he invited Carlyle, then only eighteen years of age, to become his assistant. It was originally intended that Carlyle should become a minister of the Kirk of Scotland, but he became impressed with serious doubts as to his fitness for the ministry, and the anxiety of mind and inattention to his diet made him, at the age of twenty-three, a chronic dyspeptic. Leaving Edinburgh, he was for a while tutor in a private family, and made himself master of the German language and literature. Returning again to Edinburgh, he entered upon his chosen profes-

sion, that of a "writer of books." At this time he translated Legendre's Geometry and Goethe's "Wilhelm Meister," and wrote a "Life of Schiller." In 1826 he married Jane Welch, a lineal descendant of John Knox, who died in 1866. In 1827 he completed the "Specimens of German Romance," wrote many biographical sketches for the "Edinburgh Cyclopaedia," and began the series of essays known as his "Miscellanies." In 1831 "Sartor Resartus" was

written, and he took it to London the following year, but the publishers would not look at it; and "The Stichler Restitched" appeared in *Frazer's Magazine* in 1833-34. In 1837 was published his "History of the French Revolution," the first of Carlyle's books to which his name was formally attached. In 1839 he published a small work on "Chartism," in 1840 "Heroes and Hero Worship," and in 1843 "Past and Present," besides contributing to the periodicals.

The first two volumes of "Frederick the Great," the crowning literary work of his life, appeared in 1858, two more in 1862, and the concluding two in 1864. In 1865 he was elected Rector of Edinburgh University. During the American Civil War he was a pronounced Southern sympathizer, and believed implicitly in the overthrow of the republic. During the Franco-German war he took sides with Germany. Although a martyr to dyspepsia from his early manhood, he was a genial companion to those who suited his fancy, and it has been said even by those who had heard Coleridge talk, that they never knew what table-talk could be until they had listened to Carlyle seated, pipe in mouth, under an awning in the yard of his modest home.

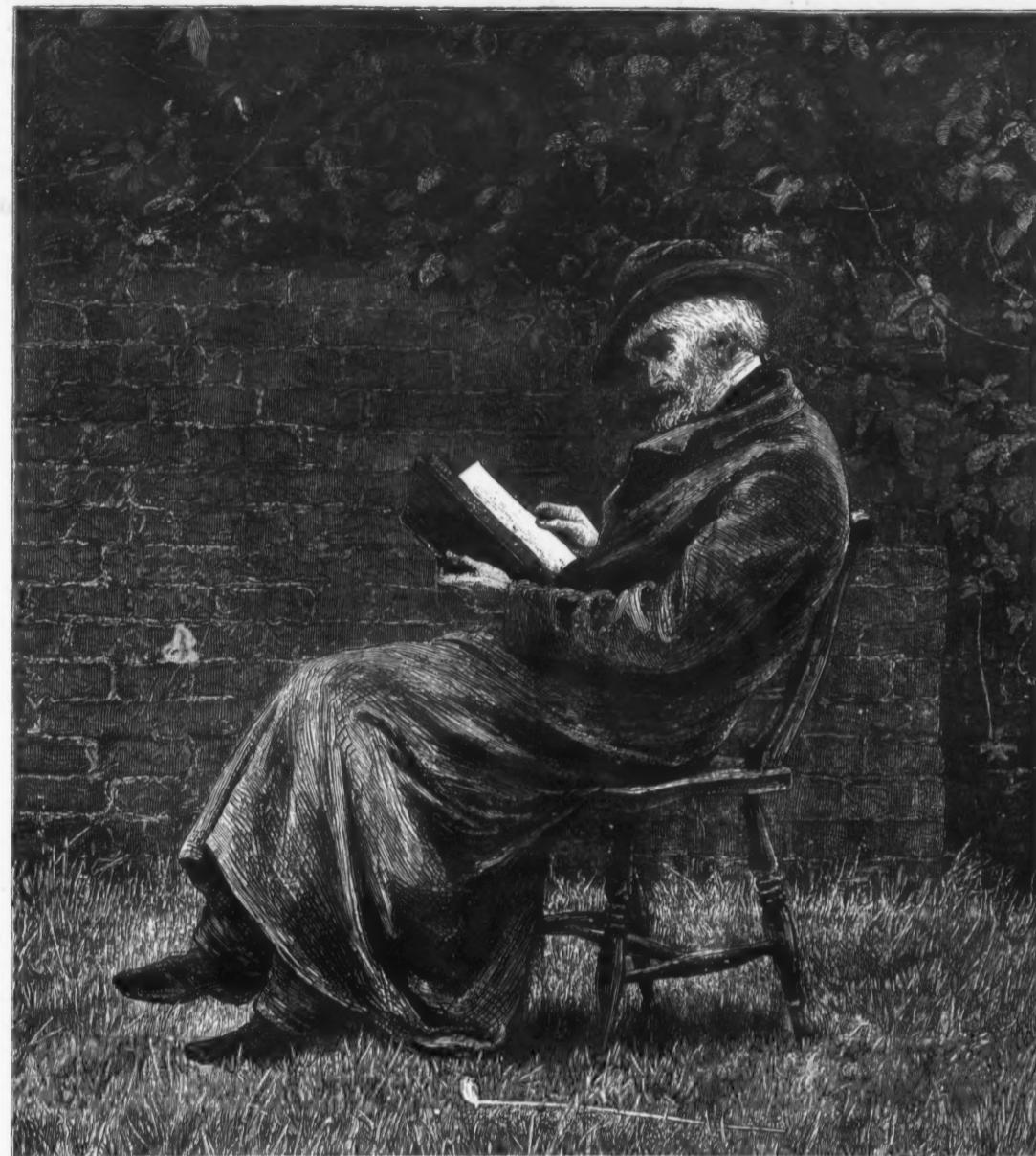
A CHINESE NEW YEAR'S TEA-PARTY.

THE Sunday-school of Trinity Baptist Church, of New York City, includes thirty young Chinamen, and on Monday evening, January 31st, they gave a New Year's tea-party in native style to their friends. The lecture-room was decorated with specimens of their handiwork, which were the subjects of admiring comment by their friends and guests. The Chinamen were dressed in black suits of an American cut, and several wore imposing watch chains. Several drawings made by Ah Wing, who is taking lessons at Cooper Union, attracted attention. An interesting object was a large red banner. It was edged with blue fringe, next to which was a long silver band. In the centre an open Bible was represented, the text being in Chinese characters, and a selection from Scripture was on the top in English. The "Trinity Baptist Church" was inscribed in Chinese characters, and the tassels of the banner were from the decorations of a joss-house. Before the Chinese supper was reached, four Chinamen read portions of the 25th Psalm by turns; Ah Wing sang plaintively, "Pass me not, gentle Saviour," and Lue Ging Gong offered prayer. Ah Wing also made a little speech. He said four Chinamen had joined the Trinity Baptist Church, and expressed the hope that those present would all "meet in heaven at last."

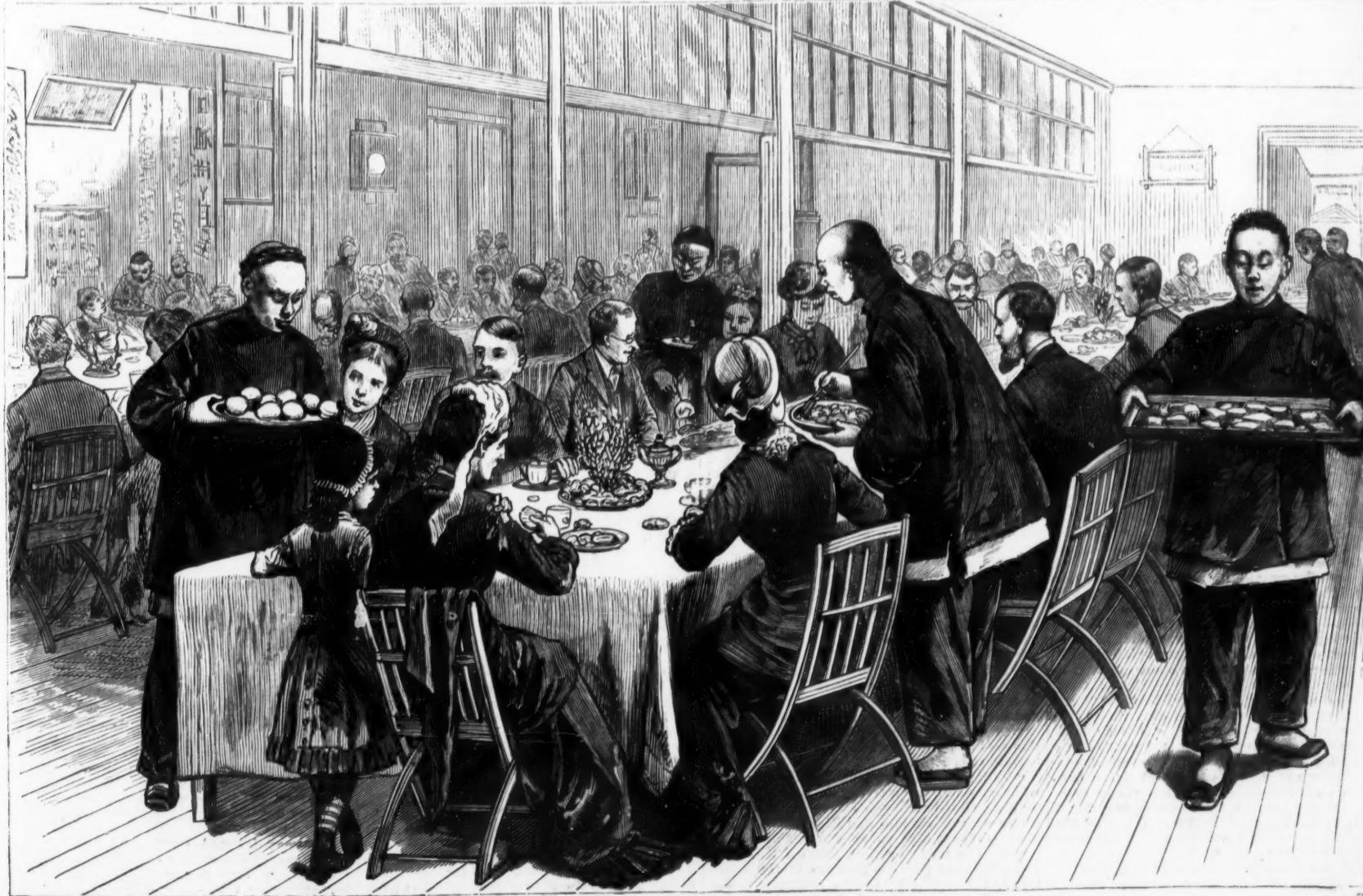
The supper was a novel affair. Three tables were spread, the central one containing all the food. On one end of this table stood a Chinese lily in full bloom—a good omen for the new year. It stood in a bed of stones and water. On a sugar ham was inscribed Chinese inscriptions appropriate to the anniversary. Tiny birds were fashioned in the act of pecking from its surface. A big cone of jelly tittered near by.

The skins of oranges that had been despoiled of their contents were crammed with jellies. Chinese pagodas and curious knickknacks wrought in coins and imitation flowers decorated the dining-room.

The guests being seated, the thirty young Orientals marched in single file, bearing each a teapot and a milk-ewer. The tea was like any tea. When it was served the Chinamen disappeared and speedily re-entered, bearing each a vast earthen platter



THOMAS CARLYLE.



NEW YORK CITY.—A CHINESE NEW YEAR'S TEA PARTY IN THE TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH, JANUARY 31ST.

and a long pewter spoon. Fifteen different kinds of confection were then tossed with marvelous dexterity over the shoulders of the guests upon the plate.

A beautiful young woman had just pushed aside her teacup, inasmuch as she did not like tea, when a diamond-shaped piece of fruit-cake fell as though it had dropped from the sky exactly in the centre of her plate. She stretched out her hand to take it, when there was a flash of a pewter spoon and the back of her hand was struck by a wedge of pale-colored jelly with streakings of scarlet. As she looked in some confusion for a napkin, the central piece of cake was surrounded by an oblong tart, an orange filled with tri-colored marmalade, a tissue paper rose-bud, a crescent-shaped substance that resembled a section of tallow candle stuffed with bleached caraway seeds, seven other kinds of remarkable confections, and a shower of Chinese plums and prickly nuts.

The supper was served all at once, and there was no further ceremony. The Oriental hosts, contrary to what one would suppose, seemed delighted at the fact that their guests could eat only a fraction of what was set before them. As they looked at the matter, this was evidence that their hospitality had been ample.

GOOD NEWS FROM HOME.

By J. ESTEN COOKE

CHAPTER I.

ON a balcony of their hotel, in a pleasant city of Georgia, Weathersfield, president of the Grand Junction Railroad, and Carleton, capitalist, seeking investment in mines, were seated, after dinner, smoking their cigars. They were men of middle age, and had the air of old friends. Each spoke at intervals, and there were familiar pauses. In one of these pauses an Italian in the street beneath began to play his hand-organ; and the air was the old fashioned "Good News from Home."

Weathersfield suddenly leaned forward and listened. Carleton imitated him, and looked down at the performer—an old man, with a long, gray beard—turning his crank, while a monkey in a red jacket held his cap to the crowd.

Then something curious happened. Weathersfield and Carleton both put their hands in their pockets, and dropped something into the cap. As the two somethings fell they were seen to be yellow—the yellow of gold, not of copper. Then the friends looked at each other and said :

"A gold piece!"

"Yes—and you also."

"That is true. Why do you give yours?"

"I give it to the old Italian because he resembles a man who made my fortune," said Carleton.

"And I give mine because that air he is playing made my fortune and saved my life."

There was a pause. The Italian organist was looking up in wonder at them, with the two gold pieces in his hand. He had stopped turning his crank from pure bewilderment.

"Enough, my friend," Weathersfield called out. "There is no mistake. Keep the gold and come back to morrow—move on, now."

The friends drew back and resumed their smoking—there was a pause of at least ten minutes.

"Story for story," said Weathersfield, a man of few words—accustomed to close great contracts in two minutes by his watch; "shall I begin, or you?"

"You first!" said Carleton, smiling; "then I will follow you. Friends as close as you and I, Weathersfield, need have no secrets from each other. How did it happen that hearing that air on the Italian's hand organ saved your life and made your fortune?"

"You shall hear," said Weathersfield.

He was a very great smoker, like General Grant, whom he somewhat resembled. He lit a fresh cigar, leaned back in his chair, and said :

"I am the son of a blacksmith, and am not ashamed of it. In fact, my grandfather and great-grandfather were also blacksmiths, which no doubt accounts for my taking to the 'iron roads' as they call railways in France. I was born in a village on the Gulf, and was my father's apprentice. I blew the bellows and learned to make first-class horseshoe. But making horseshoes did not satisfy me. Blacksmithing was a slow trade. I had the 'risky' genius in me—fifteen cents for shoeing a horse was not to my fancy. So I went into a store as a clerk, and began soon to *merchandise*. That is what they call it. It means to make quick profits by using your brains—when you make them."

"I made them, but one day I slipped up and failed. A speculation in cotton laid me flat on my back. For this I would not have cared, however. I was only twenty-two or three, and had perfect confidence in my resources. But I was in love, and had hoped to marry soon, when this failure came. I say had hopes; perhaps they did not amount to much. I had fallen in love with the daughter of a gentleman of the village—Alice Hale, the best and truest-hearted girl God ever made—and she loved me too, but her father refused his consent. He was a grand old gentleman, and made me the courliest bows; he would have died, I think, before saying to me, 'You can not marry my daughter because you are only the son of a blacksmith'; so what he said was, 'My young friend, I am growing old, and cannot part with my daughter, my only child!'"

Weathersfield smoked for some minutes in silence, and then went on :

"Well, you see, if there had been any hope for me at all, it was now all gone. As a prosperous young merchant, I might have finally succeeded in overcoming the old gentleman's opposition, for he was heavily involved, and the pressure of debt often breaks down barriers on such occasions. A rich young merchant, even though a blacksmith's son, might hope by his devotion in time to marry the daughter of a ruined gentleman—all the more as she wished to marry him. But now the son of the blacksmith was ruined, and there was not the least chance of persuading the old gentleman—I could see that. So I determined to go away, and either give up the whole

affair or trust to luck and the changes that come with time in the lives of all men—they are great.

My parting with Alice was a hard business enough. There was no trouble in seeing her. Mr. Hale was a fine old fellow and quite above anything small. He always met me, when I came to his house, with a courteous bow, retired to his study after a few moments' polite conversation, and left me in the drawing-room with his daughter. She was there on the morning when I went to tell her good-bye. I remember as I came up to the door that she was playing the piano, of which she was very fond, and singing in her sweet voice—I have never heard any other as sweet—her favorite air "Good News from Home."

"I am rather a hard man, Carleton—my life has made me so—but I swear, when I heard that old organ-grinder play the same air—whenever and wherever I hear it—my heart beats like a sledge-hammer, and the tears come to my eyes. Well, I staid for an hour, and broke my heart looking at the girl and longing for her, and thinking I was going to leave her.

"How can I go, Alice?" I exclaimed, like the mere boy I was. "It will kill me!"

"Do you think it makes me happy to think of it?" she said, sobbing.

"It breaks me down! What am I to do?" I said. "I thought I was going to persuade your father, and perhaps I might have succeeded—but I am ruined! There is no hope for me!"

"Well, this sort of talk went on for nearly an hour, when Mr. Hale, thinking, no doubt, that the interview had lasted long enough, came slowly towards the drawing-room, elaborately blowing his nose on his yellow bandanna handkerchief.

"Go to the piano and sing me," I said to Alice, "the song you were singing when I came—"Good News from Home"—let me take your voice away with me!"

"So she went. And that was the last I saw or heard of Alice Hale for many a day. On the very same evening I packed my valise, took the stage—there were no railways near the village then—and set out for New Orleans. Here I had a cousin who was in the hardware business; and I meant to go to him and say: 'Take me as a porter, or anything. I'll soon make myself useful!'

"You see, that is the way I have gone through life, Carleton. There's no let-up in me. I am no kin to the Mauder Dawdle family. I'm for going ahead, and before a train can steam up and pull out, it must be square on the rails. Some men are always going to pull out to-morrow. They are bound to make a mile a minute—some of these days. I'm not that sort. I get square on the rails in some way, no matter how humble, and then I'm certain to pull out, and get under a full head of steam after a little while. Meantime, I'm satisfied to drag along—and so I went to my cousin, Tom Billings, and in ten minutes had arranged everything. Two years afterwards I was a partner, and the firm was doing, by actual figures, four times the business it had been doing when I came into it.

CHAPTER II.

"WELL, about five years passed in that way. The firm of Billings & Weathersfield was getting rich and no mistake about it. There are several ways of conducting a business. One is to take no risks at all, and add penny to penny. Another is to risk everything and hit or miss. I have never had any liking for either. I go for risking and hitting every time, which can be done by brains.

"Billings was the stay-at-home partner. I did the traveling and prospecting. You are a mining man, Carleton, and know what I mean. I mean that I nosed out the places to make consignments, and personally talked with the men we were to do business with, looking at them and listening to them before I concluded anything. That is a good way. If you keep quiet and let a man talk you find out soon about everything you want to know about him. Then you look at him while he is talking, which is only polite, and I never fail to mark my man, by keeping my eyes on his lips. Eyes fool you—lips never."

"If I go on at this rate I'll never make the connection. Here goes for a new time-table. I was getting rich. I had not been back to the town where Alice lived, and had never heard from her, not so much as a line. You see, old Mr. Hale was so honorable and had treated me so much like a gentleman, that I did not choose to treat him otherwise. He had heard from me, however. I will tell you what I mean. I kept up a correspondence with the folks at home, and one day I got a letter which told me this. Mr. Hale was failing fast and his creditors were pressing him. One of them was such a dog as to press him to the very wall, though the old man had been the fellow's friend and patron. Well, that was too much. I bought claims against the creditor and ruined him. Mr. Hale's debt I paid, and the property was settled on Alice—she and he knew nothing about it. Meanwhile, I had made the acquaintance of Madame Hermoncieux."

When Weathersfield said he had made the acquaintance of Madame Hermoncieux his face had a curious expression. It was satirical and threatening—the expression of a man who comes suddenly upon a rattlesnake, but feels that he has a club in his hand with which he is certain to crush it.

"Madame Hermoncieux," Weathersfield went on, quietly, "was a rich creole *propriétaire*, who lived on Bayou Teche, which empties above Alexandria into Red River. This bayou is navigable at high water, and steamboats go there. For three or four years I had been doing business with the planters in the country, and, among others, with Madame, whose husband had recently died. I said she was rich, but I soon found that her fine estate was

loaded down with debt. She lived splendidly, but the whole thing was only a shell. She was a beautiful woman of twenty-nine or thirty, black eyes, black hair, lips as red as blood, and the most beguiling expression I ever saw in a woman.

"Well, we soon became intimate, and I was lightly flattered by her attentions. The planters entertained me finely, and I met Madame often. Very soon she invited me to visit her at her plantation, and I did so, staying days at a time. She was a woman of business, and took great interest in railroads. I was then setting on foot the Atafalqua and Terrebonne connection, and she made me tell her everything—all I would—about my affairs. I may have talked big about my prospects, as men will—I suppose I did, for every day the infernal creature was getting faster hold of me. I had not forgotten Alice, but had given her up in despair; and here was this superbly beautiful woman looking at me in a way that was enough to turn your head. In less than a year things had gone so far that I was her acknowledged suitor, and in the following Spring I was engaged to be married to her.

"I will now go on and tell you how things came to a point. I was busy all the time working up the Terrebonne connection line, putting the stock on the market, and engineering the whole business. But that did not monopolize me. I had not let my old irons get cold, and kept up the iron business. The business of the firm had extended to Mexico and South America, and I had a contract to furnish the rails and iron for the manufacture of the rolling-stock of a railway in Peru, which was sure to make my fortune. I had made this contract with a man named Perez, a Spaniard I had known at Vera Cruz, from which city he had gone to Peru and started the railway there.

"I mention this to say that it was this great Peruvian contract which seemed to interest Madame Hermoncieux more than everything else. She was never done talking of it. Sitting in her fine drawing-room, looking out on Bayou Teche, she would listen to me for hours, leaning forward in her chair and looking at me as if she was hanging on my words. I thought this a little strange, but, then, she was a woman who had a head for business, and I told her—as was natural in a man engaged to her—all about the affair. The contract was not yet definitely concluded, that is, signed, though it was as good as made. There was a confounded condition about the agreement which I did not like. I was willing, of course, to engage under a heavy penalty to perform the iron contract, but Perez wrote me that the directors required me to take out a policy of insurance on my life to secure them in case of failure. The thing was unbusiness-like, and the premium was heavy, for the amount of the penalty was eight hundred thousand dollars. I protested, but Perez declared 'to his great regret,' he said, that he could do nothing with the Peruvian Dons, and this was the state of things at the time I am now going to tell you about.

"First I will say, however, that I was getting crazy about Madame Hermoncieux—I had lost my head. For years I had not heard a word from Alice Hale, and never expected to see her again—and here was this beautiful creole holding out her arms, and ready to marry me. I had the strangest feeling about her. I did not love her, but she seemed to magnetize me. The idea that we were to be married made my pulse gallop; but now and then a sort of chill ran through my body, such as the Cubans say they feel when they walk over the spot where they are to be buried. I am not a fanciful man and rather tough, but I swear, I felt that."

CHAPTER III.

"WELL, things soon came to a crash. We are now coming to a rather interesting part of my story.

"I had concluded to take out the policy of insurance on my life for \$800,000, and did so, notifying Perez by mail and telegraph. Then I set about working like a horse to ship the iron before the season of the vomito, only taking a short drive to the Metairie Race-course in the evening to rest. I had telegraphed to Madame that the policy was taken out and the contract signed; and one morning I received a letter from her begging me to come and see her—she was pining for me, she said.

"I could not resist this, and set out as fast as steam could carry me. I arrived at Madame's fine plantation on a lovely evening, hastened through the veranda, and was received with two white arms locked tight round my neck and a dozen kisses. I had never seen her look more beautiful, and her emotion seemed almost to overcome her—I remember reading that phrase in a novel once, the only one I ever read. Her face was red and pale by turns, and her lips were like ice. I asked her what was the matter.

"'Matter!' she cried, with a laugh, which struck me as sounding very strange. 'Do you wonder at my feeling a little excited at again seeing you?'

"She looked at me with a flash in her eye—and once more her white arms were round my neck, and her cold lips on my cheek.

"Well, all this was highly agreeable, and I soon forgot the cold lips and the strange expression of her eyes. We sat down and talked business.

"'So you have signed the contract, mon cher?' she said, smiling curiously.

"'Yes; I concluded to do so.'

"'And—the policy?'

"'I took it out. There was nothing else to be done. That Perez is a scoundrel, but he'll find I'm too much for him.'

"'The amount you said was—'

"'Here it is,' I replied. 'It is for \$800,000—rather a dig in the way of premium, but let it go.'

"She seized the policy and read it with

flushed cheeks. She then folded it up again and handed it back to me.

"'Of course, it is a mere form,' she said, in a low, dull voice. 'No harm can happen to you. The vomito—'

"'We won't talk of that,' I said. 'I am not afraid. I'll go with the iron and come back quick—and then—'

"I made a motion to embrace Madame, but she shrank away from me, looking rather pale.

"'I am a little unwell,' she said, in the same low, dull voice. 'I am subject to these attacks—my nerves. I will be back in a minute.'

"With this she went out of the room, leaving me rather astonished at her agitation, which I could not in the least understand. As I was a little tired with my steamboat trip, I stretched myself on a sofa and took up a magazine which was lying open upon it. It was open at a curious article giving an account of a remarkable criminal, *Janus Weathercock*, as he called himself, who figured in London in the eighteenth century, I think, or maybe later. He was a dandy, author, society man, fine gentleman, a little of everything, and full of high spirits. He married one of two beautiful sisters, and insured the life of the other in about a dozen different companies for amounts that aggregated something like fifty thousand pounds sterling; then he poisoned her with strychnine and claimed the amounts through assignments from her to himself. Of course, the companies suspected his game, and he was arrested and executed, or died, or something.

The article in the magazine gave a full account of him, and I was reading it with interest when Madame Hermoncieux came back smiling. As soon as she saw what I was reading, however, she suddenly turned pale, and seemed to wish to take the magazine from me. I scarcely noticed this at the time, but remembered it afterwards.

"'What makes you so pale?' I asked.

"'Am I pale?' she said, in a low voice. 'Oh! yes, I forgot my rouge! I was so flattered at the idea that you were coming—you must pardon me!'

"It was not such an unpardonable thing, so no more was said about it; and after a long evening I retired to my room and was soon asleep. Do you believe in warnings? I do. I fell asleep in a rail-car once, and a voice said to me: 'Get out at the next station.' It made such an impression on me that I did get out, and ten miles further the train was wrecked and half the passengers crushed to death. On this night I dreamed that Alice Hale came to my bedside and threw her arms around me with a terror-stricken look, turning her head as she did so, over her shoulder, as if she were defying an enemy. It made me shiver, and I woke and lay awake till daybreak. It had another curious effect. All at once I felt that this was the only woman I really loved, and I remember feeling a sort of despair at the idea that I was going to marry the other—madame—and lose Alice for ever.

"Well, I came down to the drawing-room in the morning in this mood of mind. Everything was calm and peaceful. The room was full of flowers, and through the open window I could see the bright morning sunlight on Bayou Teche. Madame was not yet up, and to pass the time I looked round for the magazine I had been reading. I wanted to finish the "Janus Weathercock" article—but the magazine was nowhere to be seen.

"In the midst of my search for it, Madame Hermoncieux entered the room. I never saw her look so pale, and there was black rings around her eyes.

"'You are unwell!' I said.

"'No,' she replied, in a voice not at all like her own.

"'Your face is pale and haggard, and your eyes hollow.'

"'All fancy,' she said, forcing a laugh. 'I did not sleep very well, that is all. A bad headache—but breakfast is ready. That will revive me.'

"We went into the bright little breakfast-room, where a small circular table was set for breakfast—delicate china, heavy silver and flowers. A French maid brought in the chocolate and rolls, and then retired. We were left alone, except for Madame's pet lap-dog, Fifi, who gambolled about, frisking his tail.

"'You really are as pale as death,' I said, as we took our seats at the small table, 'though I see you are rouged. What's the matter?'

"'Nothing,' she said.

"As she spoke she tried to laugh, but I never heard anything more hollow and unnatural.

"'I am only a little unwell. I—shall soon be better. I will give you your chocolate—but Stephanie has forgotten the sugar-dish.'

lady's stays under such circumstances, I ripped up madame's with a table-knife, and a paper fell out of her dress front. I don't know what made me glance at it but I did, and recognized the handwriting of my Peruvian friend Perez. 'What could Perez want with madame?' I thought, with quick jealousy. I opened the paper and read it. Do you know what it was? It was an assignment of the amount of the policy on my life, in case of my death, to his sister, Madame Hermoncieux, who was empowered to receive and receipt for the amount.

"I was popping my eyes at the paper when I heard yelps and groans. Looking round, I saw the lap dog Fifi writhing on the floor. He had lapped up the sweet chocolate spilled upon the floor and was dying—poisoned.

"I did not take me more than half a minute to understand everything from beginning to end. Madame Hermoncieux and her brother had put up this bad job on me. I was to insure my life for nearly a million and then be done away with! I looked at madame; she was still in her faint. Then I heard another steamboat coming, and ran and raised the signal flag in the grounds. Fifteen minutes afterwards I was safe on board and I have never seen madame since.

"This is my whole story and you see now how the tune 'Good News from Home' saved me. I made my fortune by the Peruvian contract after all, married Alice with her father's full consent, and here we are chatting away and giving gold pieces to the Italian organ-grinders!

BLESSING THROATS ON ST. BLAISE'S DAY.

IN these days, when a prominent clergyman of widespread fame perils his popularity by acknowledging that proofs of miraculous favors seem to him convincing, and a learned surgeon at the other extreme declares miraculous cures possible only in persons of hysterical constitutions of mind and body, it may be well to note the progress in this unbelieving land of faith in supernatural powers.

Some explain cures by imagination, hysteria and the like, but never in practice cure patients by this mode of treatment, which is really too bad. If people can be cured by doses of imagination and hysteria, which cost nothing, why do the doctors make up costly prescriptions that simply ruin a poor fellow?

In Germany and Italy the people have long had great devotion to St. Blaise, a Bishop in Armenia in the fourth century, who died like St. Andrew on the X-shaped cross, bearing testimony to Christ to the last. At the time of the Crusades, his relics were brought to Western Europe, and cures of throat diseases, through his intercession, established a widespread confidence in the Bishop of Morningland. His name became common in families in all countries, and lingers still in Spain and Holland. Among old Knickerbocker families here, it is not unusual to find a Blasius. The feast of the saint falls on the 3d of February, the day after Candlemas.

In Germany and Italy it is common for the priest, on the day after the Mass, to give all who wish relief or protection from throat diseases the blessing of St. Blaise with two candles hallowed the day before. The Catholics from Germany have introduced the rite here, and on the prevalence of diphtheria and similar diseases the number of votaries has swelled so that the rite, comparatively recent here and striking, is worthy of note. The form of the blessing of St. Blaise is simple. The people go up to the sanctuary-rail and kneel there, while the priest, passing along with two candles crossed, holds them before the face of each, saying a short prayer, in substance the following: "Through the intercession of Blessed Blaise, Thy bishop and martyr, deliver Thy servant, O Lord, from all diseases of the throat or other evils."

This ceremony took place in an immense number of Catholic churches throughout the country on the recent feast of the Armenian martyr of Christianity's early days, which was observed on February 3d.

Our illustration was sketched during this interesting ceremony in St. Alphonsus' Church, New York City.

The Amended Bible.

ACCORDING to statements unofficial, but apparently authentic, the revisers of the New Testament have made alterations which will excite some consternation and not a little regret among all those who are familiar with the authorized version.

Among the more striking changes may be noted an alteration in the Lord's Prayer, as rendered in Matthew vi., 9, 13. In the new version the Doxology is entirely omitted, and the prayer reads thus: "Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so on earth. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."

The prayer as recorded in Luke xi., 2, 3, 4, reads as follows in the revised book: "Father, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."

The prayer as recorded in Luke xi., 2, 3, 4, reads as follows in the revised book: "Father, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one." The change is manifestly proper, since there was only one pinnacle to the Temple. In Matthew xix., 17, the entire meaning of the text is changed, but no new doctrine is put forth, and no old one assailed. In the King James version the verse reads: "Why callest thou me good? There is none good but one; that is God. But if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments." In this verse "a pinnacle" is made to read "the pinnacle," and the change is manifestly proper, since there was only one pinnacle to the Temple. In Matthew xix., 17, the entire meaning of the text is changed, but no new doctrine is put forth, and no old one assailed. In the King James version the verse reads: "Why callest thou me good? There is none good but one; that is God. But if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments." The question in Mark viii., 36, 37: "For what shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" is rendered: "For what doth it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what should a man give in exchange for his life?"

In speaking of Capernaum, Christ said, as recorded in Luke x., 15, 16, of the accepted version: "And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted to heaven, shall be thrust down to hell. He that beareth you (speaking to His disciples) heareth Me, and he that despiseth you despiseth Me, and he that despiseth Me despiseth Him that sent Me." The committees have changed this passage very materially. It reads: "And thou, Capernaum, shall thou be exalted unto heaven? thou shalt be brought down unto Hades. He that heareth you heareth Me, and he that rejects you rejects Me, and he that rejects Me rejects Him that sent Me." Luke xvi., 8, 9, have also been materially changed. In the present version they read:

"And the Lord commanded the unjust steward because he had done wisely; for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light. And I say unto you, make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness, that when ye fall they may receive you into everlasting habitations." In the revision these two verses read as follows: "And the Lord commanded the unjust steward because he had done wisely. For the sons of this world are, for their own generation, wiser than the sons of the light. And I say unto you, make to yourselves friends by means of the mammon of unrighteousness, that when it shall fail, they may receive you into the eternal tabernacles." In the parable of Lazarus and the rich man, as told in Luke, the word "hell" is changed to Hades, so the verse reads: "And in Hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torments." Without having the entire revision to examine, it is impossible to say whether the word "hell" is expunged in every instance where it occurs.

The story of the Pool of Bethesda, as told in John v., is materially changed by taking from it that portion which relates to the miraculous powers of the water of the pool. In verse 3—"In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water"—the last seven words are stricken out, and verse 4—"For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water; whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had," is omitted altogether. Acts xi., 47: "And the Lord added to the Church daily such as should be saved," is made to read: "And the Lord added to them day by day those that were being saved." In Acts viii., 37: "And Philip said, if thou believest with all thine heart thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God," comprising the eunuch's profession of faith, is expunged, as is also the expression: "Let us not fight against God," in Acts xxiii., 9. In Acts xvii., 23: "For as I passed by and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription: To the unknown God. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, Him declare I unto you," the latter part is made to read: "To an unknown God. What, therefore, ye worship in ignorance, that declare I unto you."

In the trial of Paul before Agrippa, recorded in Acts xxvi., some rather important changes are made in verses 24 to 29 inclusive, and the impression that Agrippa was almost persuaded to become a Christian by Paul's eloquence is dispelled. The verses in the present version are as follows: "And as he thus spake for himself Festus said, with a loud voice: Paul, thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad. But he said, I am not mad, most noble Festus, but speak forth the words of truth and soberness. For the King knoweth of these things, before whom also I speak freely; for I am persuaded that none of these things are hidden from him; for this hath not been done in a corner. King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? I know that thou believest. Then Agrippa said unto Paul, almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian. And Paul said, I would to God, that whether with little or with much, not thou only, but also all that hear me this day, might become such as I am, except these bonds."

The above example of the text of the revised New Testament, which have been given to the public in advance of the meeting of the Convocation of Canterbury, give a fair idea of the character and scope of the ten years' work which has been done by the two committees in England and America. The book will probably be published within the next month.

Losses by Light Coin.

AMONG the minor disadvantages of banking may be included the losses incurred by bankers upon light coin. At a local branch of a great London banking establishment there is paid away often nearly as much as £100 per week on account of short-weight bullion, and the average weekly loss is not far short of this amount. If this be the loss at a single branch of one single bank, what must be the total loss to the banks throughout the kingdom? At all banks gold and silver is freely received from customers without regard to actual weight, and when the incoming bullion is greatly in excess of the outgoing bullion, a certain quantity is handed over to the Bank of England or to the mint, where it cannot be realized except at a sacrifice, which is generally considerable on account of lightness. The authorities, however, are not invariably the gainers, for it is stated by Mr. R. H. Hill, Superintendent of the operative department of the Royal Mint, that the purchase of dirt adhering to gold costs no less than £311 per 1,000,000 sovereigns, and £334 per 2,000,000 half sovereigns. The delicate calculation, it is said, was made by washing coin, which proved that the loss of weight on 1,000 sovereigns was 0.68 ounce, and 0.043 on 1,000 half sovereigns.

How Artificial Pearls are Made.

MANY persons have no doubt been frequently struck with the great beauty of artificial or imitation pearls. Those who make it their business to produce such articles of ornamentation have attained to a high degree of perfection in their art; so much so that in 1862, at the London Exhibition, a Frenchman, who was an adept at their manufacture, exhibited a row of large real and imitation pearls alternately; and without close inspection, we are assured it would have been impossible even for a judge to have selected the real from the unreal. Some translations from French and German works on this manufacture have recently been communicated to *Land and Water*, and from these it appears that the art of making imitation pearls is ascribed to one Jacquin, a chandelier and rosary manufacturer, at Passy, who lived about 1860. Noticing that the water after cleaning some white fish (*Leuciscus alburnus*), a species of *dace*, was of a silvery appearance, he gradually collected the sediment, and with this substance—to which he gave the name of *essence d'orient*—and with a thin glue made of parchment, he lined the glass beads of which he framed his rosaries, and afterwards filled them with wax. The method of making the round bead is by heating one end—which has first been closed—of a glass tube, which then, when blown into two or three times, expands into a globular form. The workman then separates the bead, places the end which has been heated on a wire, and heats the other end. This process is called bordering or edging. The best pearls are made in the same way, the holes of the tubes being gradually reduced by heat to the size of those of the real pearls, the workman taking each bead on inserted wire, and, by continually turning them round in the flame of the lamp used, they become so true as to be strung as evenly as the Oriental pearls. The process of coloring the pearl is commenced by lining the interior of the ball with a delicate layer of perfectly limpid and colorless parchment glue; and before it is quite dry the essence of orient is introduced by means of a slender glass blowpipe.

It is then allowed to dry; the pearl is filled with wax, and, if intended for a necklace, is pierced through the wax with a red-hot needle. The essence of orient, as it is called, is the chief ingredient in the manufacture of the pearl. It is a very valuable substance, and is obtained from the fish above named by rubbing them rather roughly in a basin of pure water, so as to remove the scales; the whole is then strained through a linen cloth, and left for several days to settle, when the water is drawn off. The sediment forms the essence referred to. It requires from seventeen to eighteen thousand fish to obtain about a pound of this substance! Besides the French imitation pearls, as those above described are called, there are the Roman pearls, which are made of wax, covered with a kind of pearly lustre. But these do not look so well as the French pearls; while in a heated room, they are apt to soften and stick to the skin. A very extensive trade is now done in the manufacture and sale of French artificial pearls.

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

—DURING January the mints coined a total of 6,336,053 pieces, valued at \$9,592,230.

—THE reduction in the public debt for the month of January was \$7,382,168, and for the seven months ending January 31st, \$50,172,727.

—A WEALTHY California lady, who for fifteen years believed that her mother was dead, recently found her in the Chicago Home for the Friendless.

—A DISPATCH from Madeira states that the King of Ashante threatens war, and that 250 troops have been sent to Cape Coast Castle from Sierra Leone.

—A PROSPECTUS has been issued in Paris for the establishment of a Central American Cable Company to connect Central America with the United States and Europe.

—THE Chinese treaties have been reported to the Senate from the Foreign Relations Committee, with recommendations for ratification, and placed on the calendar.

—A BILL has been introduced in the New Jersey Legislature providing for an appropriation of \$10,000 for the completion of the monument on the battlefield of Monmouth.

—THE new Russian Minister of Finance has consented to the institution of an inquiry into the causes of the depression in Russian industries. Many bankruptcies are imminent in Moscow.

—CONGRESS has passed a resolution granting an American register to the Egyptian steamer *Dessoug*, in which Lieutenant-Commander Gorringe brought to this country the obelisk of Alexandria.

—THE King of the Netherlands will shortly be asked to direct his Government to make diplomatic representations to Great Britain with the object of granting the independence of the Boers.

—THE Supreme Court, General Term, has affirmed the previous decision of Judge Van Brunt sustaining the authority of the Pilot Commissioners to exclude steam-vessels from the pilot fleet in New York Harbor.

—SENATOR MORRILL has presented the statue of Jacob Collier, contributed by the State of Vermont, to the National Statuary Hall set apart for two statues of representative men from each State. A resolution of acceptance and appreciation of the gift was passed by the Senate.

—THERE is a lively railroad war in progress in the Delaware Legislature. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company is endeavoring to secure the right to build an opposition line from Baltimore to Philadelphia, and the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Company is opposing the scheme. The result is doubtful.

—IN Philadelphia, on February 1st, in the presence of a large assemblage of guests, the National Mining Stock Exchange was formally opened. Colonel A. Loudon Snowden delivered an address. The officers are: President, Samuel Dutton; Vice-President, William B. Dalton; Treasurer, B. F. Hart; Secretary, G. A. Q. Miller.

—IN the United States Circuit Court at Providence, R. I., on February 1st, in the suit of the National Bank of Commerce against Z. Chaffee, Master of the A. & W. Sprague estate, for ejectment from the property bought at a sale under an execution, was opened and afterwards entered as settled, a compromise having been effected.

—THE Chilean conditions of peace are said to be as follows: The cession of Antofagasta to Chile; the surrender of the allied fleet and the payment of an indemnity of \$30,000,000, whereof Peru shall assume \$20,000,000 and Bolivia \$10,000,000. Chile to occupy Callao and work the guano deposits and copper and salt-petre mines until full payment of the indemnity is made.

—IT is reported that Florida has closed a contract for draining Lake Okeechobee, under which name is included a small lake and very large swamp that, between them, occupy great space to no possible purpose. The ground to be thus reclaimed comprises more acres than Connecticut and Massachusetts combined, and is rich enough, it is said, to produce all the sugar the United States can use.

—THE Brazilian Senate has adopted the Electoral Reform Bill. The article which grants full political rights to freedmen, non-Catholics and naturalized citizens, was passed with an amendment which requires naturalized citizens to reside six years in the country before they can be elected to legislative office. The final vote on this article was 21 for and 17 against. The Bill now goes to the Chamber of Deputies for concurrence in the Senate amendments.

—A REPORT has been published by the Russian Red Cross Society showing the part played by this society during the Russo-Turkish war of 1877-78. It appears that the society established 13,120 beds, and that a total of no less than 24,973 were founded by voluntary agencies in conjunction with the Red Cross Society. The society, moreover, gave succor to 116,296 patients, among whom were 1,238 officers. The deaths of patients under their care amounted to 2,863. The society's staff consisted of 300 medical men, including sub-surgeons and 1,214 attendants.

—A MEETING of the English Committee of the International Literary Association, William Blanchard Jerrold presiding, has considered a communication from the Board of Trade in regard to a copyright convention with the United States. Mr. Jerrold submitted a draft of the proposal for an international copyright treaty which the United States Government forwarded to the British Government, with amendments to the draft suggested by the Board of Trade. It was resolved that a conference of English authors and publishers be immediately summoned to express their opinion on the American proposal and British amendments.

—THE textile manufacturers of Philadelphia have decided to inaugurate a project which will be watched with interest in many parts of the United States. This is the establishment of a school of learning and practice in the textile arts similar to those which have long existed in France, and more recently in England. Of the necessary capital (\$100,000), between \$12,000 and \$15,000 has already been subscribed, and a charter will be applied for early in the coming month. Instruction is to be given in the new school in the arts of designing, spinning, weaving, dyeing and finishing. The erection or leasing of a building and other details will not be definitely decided until the charter has been obtained.

—A SELECT committee has reported favorably to the United States Senate Mr. Pendleton's Bill to allow the principal officer of each of the executive departments to occupy a seat on the floor of the Senate and House, with the right to participate in debate on matters relating to the business of their respective departments, under such rules as may be prescribed. The Bill also provides that the secretaries of the several departments, the Attorney-General and the Postmaster-General, shall attend the Senate on the opening of the sessions on Tuesday and Friday, and the sessions of the House on the opening of the sessions on Monday and Thursday of each week, to give information asked by resolution or in reply to questions which may be propounded to them.

Grand Duchess Catharine and the Poor of St. Petersburg.

The immense palace of the Grand Duchess Catharine of St. Petersburg has this winter been turned into a great relief station for the poor of the city. At certain hours the poor are free to enter and obtain hot food and drink, at others they may have a liberal supply of cold eatables to take to their homes, and at others, again, there is a distribution of clothing to the people standing in need of sufficient raiment. Our illustration shows the several features of this noble charity as inaugurated and conducted by the Grand Duchess, assisted by the ladies of the Imperial household.



THE ROTHSCHILD-PERUGIA WEDDING IN LONDON, JANUARY 19TH—THE HEBREW CEREMONY BENEATH THE CANOPY.—SEE PAGE 415.



NEW YORK CITY.—ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE AMERICAN WATER-COLOR SOCIETY, NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN.—SEE PAGE 415.

SONNET.

TO —

THE vague and vestal beauty of thine eyes
Recalls the splendors of some Cuban night,
Where tropic storms, pulsing with golden light,
Hurl dizzy flashes through dark voids of skies!

The trustful look of sweet Actae lies
Within their starry depths, that lure and smite
The souls of men who scorn all woman's might,
And seeing them, marvel in supreme surprise.

Ah! when those eyes before me burn and shine,
In soft perfection, I can understand
White Aphrodite's glance half blurred by
foam,
And how Cleopatra, pearl-crowned and divine,
Gazed upon Antony in her passion grand,
When for her sake he spurned imperial Rome!

F. S. SALTUS.

THE BLACK ROBE.

BY WILKIE COLLINS.

BOOK THE FOURTH.

CHAPTER VI.—THE SADDEST OF ALL WORDS.

ON the tenth morning, dating from the dispatch of Father Benwell's last letter to Rome, Penrose was writing in the study at Ten Acres Lodge—while Romayne sat at the other end of the room, looking listlessly at a blank sheet of paper, with the pen lying idle beside it. On a sudden he rose, and, snatching up paper and pen, threw them irritably into the fire.

"Don't trouble yourself to write any longer," he said to Penrose. "My dream is over. Throw my manuscripts into the waste-paper basket, and never speak to me of literary work again."

"Every man devoted to literature has these fits of despondency," Penrose answered. "Don't think of your work. Send for your horse, and trust to fresh air and exercise to relieve your mind."

Romayne barely listened. He turned round at the fireplace, and studied the reflection of his face in the glass.

"I look worse and worse," he said, thoughtfully to himself.

It was true. His flesh had fallen away; his face had withered and whitened; he stooped like an old man. The change for the worse had been steadily proceeding from the time when he left Vange Abbey.

"It's useless to conceal it from me!" he burst out, turning towards Penrose. "I am in some way answerable—though you all deny it—for the French boy's death. Why not? His voice it still in my ears—and the stain of his brother's blood is on me. I am under a spell! Do you believe in the witches—the merciless old women who made wax images of the people who injured them, and stuck pins in their mock likenesses, to register the slow wasting away of their victims day after day? People disbelieve it in these times; but it has never been disproved." He stopped, looked at Penrose, and suddenly changed his tone. "Arthur! what is the matter with you? Have you had a bad night? Has anything happened?"

For the first time in Romayne's experience of him, Penrose answered evasively.

"Is there nothing to make me anxious," he said, "when I hear you talk as you are talking now? The poor French boy died of a fever. Must I remind you again that he owed the happiest days of his life to you and your good wife?"

Romayne still looked at him without attending to what he said.

"Surely you don't think I am deceiving you?" Penrose remonstrated.

"No; I was thinking of something else. I was wondering whether I really know you as well as I thought I did. Am I mistaken in supposing that you are not an ambitious man?"

"My only ambition is to lead a worthy life, and to be as useful to my fellow-creatures as I can. Does that satisfy you?"

Romayne hesitated.

"It seems strange—" he began.

"What seems strange?"

"I don't say it seems strange that you should be a priest," Romayne explained. "I am only surprised that a man of your simple way of thinking should have attached himself to the Order of the Jesuits."

"I can quite understand that," said Penrose. "But you should remember that circumstances often influence a man in his choice of a vocation. It has been so with me. I am a member of a Roman Catholic family. A Jesuit college was near our place of abode, and a near relative of mine—since dead—was one of the resident priests." He paused, and added, in a lower tone: "When I was little more than a lad I suffered a disappointment which altered my character for life. I took refuge in the college, and I have found patience and peace of mind since that time. Oh, my friend, you might have been a more contented man—" He stopped again. His interest in the husband had all but deceived him into forgetting his promise to the wife.

Romayne held out his hand.

"I hope I have not thoughtlessly hurt you," he said.

Penrose took the offered hand, and pressed it fervently. He tried to speak, and suddenly shuddered, like a man in pain.

"I am not very well this morning," he stammered; "a turn in the garden will do me good."

Romayne's doubts were confirmed by the manner in which Penrose left him. Something had unquestionably happened, which his friend shrank from communicating to him. He sat down again at his desk, and tried to read. The time passed, and he was still left alone. When

the door was at last opened, it was only Stella who entered the room.

"Have you seen Penrose?" he asked.

The estrangement between them had been steadily widening of late. Romayne had expressed his resentment at his wife's interference between Penrose and himself, by that air of contemptuous endurance which is the hardest penalty that a man can inflict on the woman who loves him. Stella had submitted with a proud and silent resignation—the most unfortunate form of protest that she could have adopted towards a man of Romayne's temper. When she now appeared, however, in her husband's study, there was a change in her expression which he instantly noticed. She looked at him with eyes softened by sorrow. Before she could answer his first question he hurriedly added another. "Is Penrose really ill?"

"No, Lewis. He is distressed."

"About what?"

"About you and about himself."

"Is he going to leave us?"

"Yes."

"But he will come back again?"

Stella took a chair by her husband's side. "I am truly sorry for you, Lewis," she said. "It is even a sad parting for me. If you will let me say it, I have a sincere regard for dear Mr. Penrose."

Under other circumstances this confession of feeling for the man who had sacrificed his dearest aspiration to the one consideration of her happiness might have provoked a sharp reply. But by this time Romayne had really become alarmed. "You speak as if Arthur was going to leave England," he said.

"He leaves England this afternoon," she answered, "for Rome."

"Why does he tell this to you and not to me?" Romayne asked.

"He cannot trust himself to speak of it to you. He begged me to prepare you—"

Her courage failed her. She paused. Romayne beat his hand impatiently on the desk before him. "Speak out!" he cried. "If Rome is not the end of the journey, what is?"

Stella hesitated no longer.

"He goes to Rome," she said, "to receive his instructions, and to become personally acquainted with the missionaries who are associated with him. They will leave Leghorn in the next vessel which sets sail for a port in Central America. And the dangerous duty intrusted to them is to re-establish one of the Jesuit missions destroyed by the savages years since. They will find their church in ruins and not a vestige left of the house once inhabited by the murdered priests. It is not concealed from them that they may be martyred too. They are soldiers of the Cross; and they go willingly to— to save the souls of the Indians at the peril of their lives."

Romayne rose and advanced to the door. There he turned, and spoke to Stella.

"Where is Arthur?" he said.

Stella gently detained him.

"There was one word more he entreated me to say—pray, wait and hear it," she pleaded. "His one grief is at leaving you. Apart from that, he devotes himself gladly to the dreadful service which claims him. He has long looked forward to it, and has long prepared himself for it. Those, Lewis, are his own words."

There was a knock at the door. The servant appeared to announce that the carriage was waiting.

Penrose entered the room as the man left it.

"Have you spoken for me?" he said to Stella.

She could only answer him by a gesture. He turned to Romayne, with a faint smile.

"The saddest of all words must be spoken," he said. "Farewell!"

Pale and trembling, Romayne took his hand.

"Is this Father Benwell's doing?" he asked.

"No!" Penrose answered, firmly. "In Father Benwell's position it might have been his doing, but for his goodness to me. For the first time since I have known him, he has shrunk from a responsibility. For my sake, he has left it to Rome. And Rome has spoken. Oh, my more than friend—my brother in love—!"

His voice failed him. With a resolution which was nothing less than heroic in a man of his affectionate nature he recovered his composure.

"Let us make it as little miserable as it can be," he said. "At every opportunity we will write to each other. And, who knows?—I may yet come back to you. God has preserved his servants in dangers as great as any that I shall encounter. May that merciful God bless and protect you. Oh, Romayne, what happy days we have had together!"

His last powers of resistance were worn out. Tears of noble sorrow dimmed the friendly eyes which had never once looked unkindly on the brother of his love. He kissed Romayne. "Help me out!" he said, turning blindly towards the hall in which the servant was waiting. That last act of mercy was not left to a servant. With sisterly tenderness, Stella took his hand and led him away. "I shall remember you gratefully as long as I live," she said to him when the carriage-door was closed. He waved his hand at the window, and she saw him no more.

She returned to the study.

The relief of tears had not come to Romayne. He had dropped into a chair when Penrose left him. In stony silence he sat there, his head down, his eyes dry and staring. The miserable days of their estrangement were forgotten by his wife in the moment when she looked at him. She knelt by his side, and lifted his head a little, and laid it on her bosom. Her heart was full—she let the caress plead for her silently. He felt it; his cold fingers pressed her hand thankfully; but he said nothing. After a long interval, the first outward expression of sorrow that fell from his lips showed that he was still thinking of Penrose.

"Every blessing falls away from me," he said. "I have lost my best friend."

Years afterwards Stella remembered those words, and the tone in which he had spoken them.

CHAPTER VII.—THE IMPULSIVE SEX.

AFTER a lapse of a few days, Father Benwell was again a visitor at Ten Acres Lodge—by Romayne's invitation. The priest occupied the very chair by the study fire-side in which Penrose had been accustomed to sit.

"It is really kind of you to come to me," said Romayne, "so soon after receiving my acknowledgment of your letter. I can't tell you how I was touched by the manner in which you wrote of Penrose. To my shame I confess it, I had no idea that you were so warmly attached to him."

"I scarcely knew it myself, Mr. Romayne, until our dear Arthur was taken away from us."

"If you used your influence, Father Benwell, is there no hope that you might yet persuade him—"

"To withdraw from the mission? Oh, Mr. Romayne, don't you know Arthur's character better than that? Even his gentle temper has its resolute side. The zeal of the first martyrs to Christianity is the zeal that burns in that noble nature. The mission has been the dream of his life; it is endeared to him by the very dangers which we dread. Persuade Arthur to desert the dear and devoted colleagues who have opened their arms to him? I might as soon persuade that statue in the garden to desert its pedestal and join us in this room. Shall we change the sad subject? Have you received the book which I sent you with my letter?"

Romayne took up the book from his desk. Before he could speak of it, some one called out briskly, on the other side of the door, "May I come in?" and came in without waiting to be asked. Mrs. Eyrecourt, painted and robed for the morning, wafting perfumes as she moved, appeared in the study. She looked at the priest, and lifted her many-ringed hands with a gesture of coquettish terror.

"Oh, dear me! I had no idea you were here, Father Benwell. I ask ten thousand pardons. Dear and admirable Romayne, you don't look as if you were pleased to see me. Good gracious! I am not interrupting a confession, am I?"

Father Benwell (with his paternal smile in perfect order) resigned his chair to Mrs. Eyrecourt. The traces of her illness still showed themselves in an intermittent trembling of her head and her hands. She had entered the room strongly suspecting that the process of conversion might be proceeding in the absence of Penrose, and determined to interrupt it. Guided by his subtle intelligence, Father Benwell penetrated her motive as soon as she opened the door. Mrs. Eyrecourt bowed graciously and took the offered chair. Father Benwell sweetened his paternal smile, and offered to get a footstool.

"How glad I am," he said, "to see you in your customary good spirits! But wasn't it just a little malicious to talk of interrupting a confession? As if Mr. Romayne was one of us! Queen Elizabeth herself could scarcely have said a sharper thing to a poor Catholic priest!"

"You clever creature!" said Mrs. Eyrecourt. "How easily you see through a simple woman like me! There—I give you my hand to kiss; we will make it up as the children say. Do you know, Father Benwell, a most extraordinary wish has suddenly come to me. Please don't be offended. I wish you were a Jew."

"May I ask why?" Father Benwell inquired, with an apostolic suavity worthy of the best days of Rome.

Mrs. Eyrecourt explained herself with the modest self-distrust of a maiden of fifteen. "I am really so ignorant I scarcely know how to put it. But learned persons have told me that it is the peculiarity of the Jews—may I say the amiable peculiarity?—never to make converts. It would be so nice if you would take a leaf out of their book when we have the happiness of receiving you here. My lively imagination pictures you in a double character. Father Benwell everywhere else, and—say, the patriarch Abraham at Ten Acres Lodge."

Father Benwell lifted his persuasive hands in courteous protest. "My dear lady! pray make your mind easy. Not one word on the subject of religion has passed between Mr. Romayne and myself—"

"I beg your pardon," Mrs. Eyrecourt interrupted; "I am afraid I fail to follow you. My silent son-in-law looks as if he longed to smother me, and my attention is naturally distracted. You were about to say—"

"I was about to say, dear Mrs. Eyrecourt, that you are alarming yourself without any reason. Not one word on any controversial subject has passed—"

Mrs. Eyrecourt cocked her head with the artless vivacity of a bird. "Ah, but it might though!" she suggested, slyly.

Father Benwell once more remonstrated in dumb show, and Romayne lost his temper.

"Mrs. Eyrecourt!" he cried, sternly.

Mrs. Eyrecourt screamed and lifted her hands to her ears.

"I am not deaf, dear Romayne—and I am not to be put down by any ill-timed exhibition of what I may call domestic ferocity. Father Benwell sets you an example of Christian moderation. Do, please, follow it."

Romayne refused to follow it.

"Talk on any other topic that you like, Mrs. Eyrecourt. I request you—don't oblige me to use a harder word—I request you to spare Father Benwell and myself any further expression of your opinion on controversial subjects."

"A son-in-law may make a request, and a

mother-in-law may decline to comply. Mrs. Eyrecourt declined to comply.

"No, Romayne, it won't do. I may lament your unhappy temper, for my daughter's sake—but I know what I am about, and you can't provoke me. Our reverend friend and I understand each other. He will make allowances for a sensitive woman, who has had sad experience of conversions in her own household. My eldest daughter, Father Benwell—a poor, foolish creature—was converted into a nun. The last time I saw her (she used to be sweetly pretty; my dear husband quite adored her)—the last time I saw her, she had a red nose, and, what is even more revolting at her age, a double chin. She received me with her lips pursed up, and her eyes on the ground, and she was insolent enough to say that she would pray for me. I am not a furious old man with a long white beard, and I don't curse my daughter and rush out into a thunderstorm afterwards, but I know what King Lear felt, and I have struggled with hysterics just as he did. With your wonderful insight into human nature, I am sure you will sympathize and forgive me. Mr. Penrose, as my daughter tells me, behaved in the most gentlemanlike manner. I make the same appeal to your kind forbearance. The bare prospect of our dear friend here becoming a Catholic—"

Romayne's temper gave way once more.

"If anything can make me a Catholic," he said, "your interference will do it."

"Out of sheer perversity, dear Romayne!"

"Not at all, Mrs. Eyrecourt. If I became a Catholic, I might escape from the society of ladies in the refuge of a monastery."

Mrs. Eyrecourt hit him back again, with the readiest dexterity.

"Remain a Protestant, my dear, and go to your club. There is a refuge for you from the ladies—a monastery, with nice little dinners and all the newspapers and periodicals."

Having launched this shaft, she got up, and recovered her easy courtesy of look and manner.

"I am so much obliged to you, Father Benwell. I have not offended you, I hope and trust?"

"You have done me a service, dear Mrs. Eyrecourt. But for your salutary caution, I might have drifted into controversial subjects. I shall be on my guard now."

"How very good of you! We shall meet again, I hope, under more agreeable circumstances. After that polite allusion to a monastery, I understand that my visit to my son in law may as well come to an end. Please don't forget five o'clock tea at my house."

As she approached the door it was opened from the outer side. Her daughter met her half-way.

"Why are you here, mamma?" Stella asked.

long but the duty of courtesy towards women, on which the ladies of my household have so inexcusably presumed. No words can say how much ashamed I am of what has happened. I can only appeal to your admirable moderation and patience to accept my apologies, and the most sincere expression of my regret."

"No more, Mr. Romayne! As a favor to me, I beg and entreat you will say no more. Sit down and compose yourself."

But Romayne was impenetrable to the influence of friendly and forgiving demonstrations.

"I can never expect you to enter my house again!" he exclaimed.

"My dear sir, I will come and see you again with the greatest of pleasure on any day that you may appoint—the earlier day the better. Come, come! let us laugh. I don't say it disrespectfully, but poor dear Mrs. Eyrecourt has been more amusing than ever. I expect to see our excellent Archbishop to-morrow, and I must really tell him how the good lady felt insulted when her Catholic daughter offered to pray for her. There is scarcely anything more humorous, even in Molière. And the double chin and the red nose—all the faults of those dreadful Papists. Oh, dear me, you still take it seriously. How I wish you had my sense of humor! When shall I come again and tell you how the Archbishop likes the story of the nun's mother?"

He held out his hand with irresistible cordiality. Romayne took it gratefully, still bent, however, on making atonement.

"Let me first do myself the honor of calling on you," he said. "I am in no state to open my mind, as I might have wished to open it to you, after what has happened. In a day or two more—"

"Say the day after to-morrow," Father Benwell hospitably suggested. "Do me a great favor. Come and eat your bit of mutton at my lodgings. Six o'clock, if you like—and some remarkably good claret, a present from one of the Faithful. You will? That's hearty! And do promise me to think no more of our little domestic comedy. Relieve your mind. Look at 'Wiseman's Recollections of the Popes.' Good-by—God bless you!"

The servant who opened the house-door for Father Benwell was agreeably surprised by the Papist's cheerfulness.

"He isn't half a bad fellow," the man announced among his colleagues. "Gave me half-a-crown, and went out humming a tune."

CHAPTER VIII.—FATHER BENWELL'S CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Secretary, S. J., Rome.

I.

"I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, mentioning that our reverend Fathers are discouraged at not having heard from me for more than six weeks.

"I am sorry for this—and I am more than sorry to hear that my venerated brethren regret having sanctioned the idea of obtaining the restoration of the Vange property to the Church. Let me humbly submit that the circumstances justified the idea. An unentangled property in the possession of a man of imaginative temperament, without any near relations to control him, is surely a property which might change hands, under the favoring circumstances of that man's conversion to the Catholic faith? It may be objected that the man is not yet converted. Also, that he is now married, and may have an heir to his estate. Grant me a delay of another week—and I will undertake to meet the first of these objections. In the meantime, I bow to superior wisdom; and I do not venture to add another word in my defense.

II.

"The week's grace granted to me has elapsed. I write with humility. At the same time, I have something to say for myself.

"Yesterday, Mr. Lewis Romayne, of Vange Abbey, was received into the community of the Holy Catholic Church. I inclose an accurate newspaper report of the ceremonies which attended the conversion.

"Be pleased to inform me, by telegraph, whether our reverend Fathers wish me to go on or not.

THE END OF THE FOURTH BOOK.

(To be continued.)

THE AMERICAN WATER-COLOR SOCIETY'S EXHIBITION.

THE fourteenth annual exhibition of the American Water-Color Society was opened January 24th, at the National Academy of Design on Twenty-third Street, a private view having been given on the Saturday previous. At this view pictures to the amount of \$12,400 were sold. The highest prices paid for pictures were: \$1,200 for "The Tower of St. Mark's, Venice"; \$750 for "The Doubtful Coin," a fruit-market scene; \$400 for "Thinking it Over," all three by T. W. Wood; \$200 for "Windsor Castle," by A. F. Bellows; \$225 for "Venetian Head-Stringers," by Robert Blum; \$250 for "Good Advice," by G. S. Reinhardt; \$400 for "A Puzzled Voter," by T. Hovenden; and \$250 for "Beg," a lady training a pet dog, by F. Symington. Pictures of lower price, varying from \$20 to \$200, were sold for J. Francis Murphy, Robert Blum, H. P. Smith, A. J. Brunner, E. E. Greatorex, P. De Luce, R. S. Gifford and others. Last year the first day's sales were seventy-five pictures, for which less than \$10,000 were received.

All of the galleries at the National Academy, with the exception of the south room, are filled. The collection contains about 800 pictures. The entire number sent in to the Hanging Committee was nearly 1,300, a fact that indicates an extraordinarily rapid growth in this particular branch of art. The pictures themselves confirm this impression by their quality no less than by their number. Although a much larger collection than that of last year, it does not include half as many indifferent works, and of the 500 which the Hanging Committee, from various motives, preferred to return, a large proportion was above the average of merit of last year's collection.

The arrangement of the galleries is excellent, and, regarded as a whole, the Water-color Society presents this year the most interesting, attractive, and generally meritorious collection of pictures

that has ever been seen in the National Academy. It is full of pleasing color, of variety of subject, of originality of design, of agreeable fancy, of technical acquirement, and of American quality. In style, as dependent upon method, it is comprehensive. All forms and methods of water-color are comprised. Large treatment of the figure is alone lacking to give weight and importance to this display, and that is something that is not to be expected in water-color, at least not at present.

AN INDIAN SNOWBALL BATTLE.

A CORRESPONDENT furnishes an interesting account of a snowball battle as witnessed some time since from a steamer on the banks of the Red River of the North, in Dakota, between a party of Cheyenne and Sioux boys, each numbering about twenty-five. In the opening skirmish, the opposing bands were twenty or thirty yards apart; snowballs as big as man's fist, and just as hard, flew through the air, and juvenile war-cries made the welkin ring. But as soon as the contestants had become warmed to the sport, the distance quickly shortened. The snow disappeared from the skirmish line as though melted by the hot breath of Spring, and the battle-ground was shifted to a point almost under the side of the steamer. The Sioux youths pressed harder and harder. They were led by a tall, supple fellow of fifteen or thereabouts, who hurled the balls with the force of a grown warrior and the precision of an old artillery man. His moccasins were in his way, and so, tearing them from his feet, he wrapped them in a hard packing of snow and sent them whistling into the ranks of the enemy. This act kindled the fire on the Prince of Wales, said to be the popularity acquired by the Prince as heir-apparent to the Crown—

"memor" to sign the book of the Registrar, without whose presence no marriage ceremony in any religious edifice, save of the Established Church, is legal in England. There was some little delay in leaving the church, and leisure was afforded for admiring the magnificent diamonds worn by many of the ladies present. The bride wore a magnificent set, and the bridesmaids the gold "Porte Bonheur" bracelets with the names "Marie and Leopold" inlaid in rubies and diamonds, presented to them by the bridegroom. The bridal party then repaired to the residence of Mr. Arthur Sassoon, at Albert Gate, to partake of the wedding breakfast. Mr. Sassoon's mansion was adorned with flowers, brilliantly illuminated, and filled with guests, among whom were Lord Beaconsfield, Lord Houghton, Lady Granville, and many leaders of the fashionable world. In a few kindly words the Prince of Wales proposed the health of the bride and bridegroom, adding that the house of Rothschild owed no little of its success, name and fame, to its possession in an eminent degree of the domestic virtues. Thanks were returned by Mr. Leopold de Rothschild; and then Lord Beaconsfield, in proposing the health of the Prince of Wales, said that the popularity acquired by the Prince as heir-apparent to the Crown were due to those merits which would continue to endear him to the English people over whom he would one day be called upon to reign. The Prince of Wales having thanked Lord Beaconsfield for the terms in which he had spoken, and alluded briefly to his lordship's services to his country, Mr. and Mrs. Leopold de Rothschild took their departure for Leighton Buzzard to pass the early days of the honeymoon.

HON. J. N. CAMDEN,

UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM WEST VIRGINIA.

J. N. CAMDEN was born in 1828 in Lewis County, West Virginia. He studied law, was admitted to the Bar in 1861, was appointed the same year Prosecuting Attorney for Braxton County—where he then resided—and in 1862 was elected Prosecuting Attorney for Nicholas County. In 1860 he entered largely into the petroleum development of West Virginia, demonstrating great executive ability and capacity for managing large enterprises which soon gave him prominence. In 1862, at the organization of the First National Bank of Parkersburg, he became its President, and has ever since retained the position. His public spirit and capacity for originating enterprises useful in developing the material interests of West Virginia made him prominent amongst the leading men of the State, and in 1868, when the Democratic Party was in a disorganized minority, he accepted the nomination for Governor, and by his energy and tact as an organizer, the majority against him was greatly reduced, while at the next election the State went Democratic. In 1872 he again accepted the Democratic nomination for Governor, but was defeated by a small majority by an Independent Democrat, who received the Republican vote. On January 25th he was elected to the United States Senate to succeed Senator Hereford. Mr. Camden commenced life poor and under great disadvantages; he is now regarded as amongst the rich men of his State, and is a notable example of our self-made men.

The Russian Success at Geok-Tepe.

GENERAL SKOREEFF's detailed account of the storming of Geok-Tepe shows that the Russian assault was made simultaneously by distinct columns and that the final breaches were made by the explosion of mines. Several hundred Tekkes-Turcomans were burned in one explosion. The hand-to-hand fighting with the Tekkes on the walls lasted over an hour, after which there was desperate fighting inside the fortress. The day was finally decided by the capture of the hill redoubt of Dengil-Tepe. Over 4,000 corpses of Tekkes were found inside the fortress. The trenches were also filled with corpses. Numbers were killed during the pursuit. Four thousand families were found in the fortress and 700 Persian prisoners.

SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.

The Italian Expedition to the Antarctic regions will not set out until 1882, but Lieutenant Bove will shortly set out on board a whaling-vessel to make a voyage of reconnaissance.

A Magnetic Sand, imported from the Isle of Bourbon, and since found near Morbihan, is said by M. Edard to have the property of rapidly reviving plants which had shown pronounced symptoms of decay through disease. Dr. Cech, of St. Petersburg, suggests to inventors the desirability of securing some apparatus which will collect the fine volatile oil of the coffee-bean, one-half of which is lost by the present mode of roasting. The beans contain 8 to 12 per cent. of this oil, which has all the flavor of coffee, and which would, if saved, form an excellent material for liqueurs. In 1878 the quantity of coffee roasted is estimated at about 123,000 tons.

M. Paul C. Rousset, a Russian engineer, has invented a novel and ingenious deep-sea sounder. It consists of an ordinary registering log attached to an inflated balloon, and a lead hung by a trigger at the bottom. This log is lowered into the sea. It sinks in a vertical position; as it sinks the vanes of the indicator revolve and the depth is correctly registered. When the sinker touches the bottom the trigger sets free the balloon, which rises with the log to the surface and floats until it is picked up.

The Ternikoff Process, recently invented, for producing artificial stone, is described in the foreign journals as successfully meeting some of the difficulties hitherto presented in this industry. According to the method in question, a mortar, consisting of equal parts of lime and sand, is exposed for a few hours to a temperature of 160 degrees centigrade in the presence of water vapor. The paste, having been taken out of the furnace, is passed under the cylinders of a machine like that used for the molding of bricks, and it comes out in the form of cubes which, on being exposed to the air, become dry and hard; in the course of some eight or nine hours the cubes acquire a hardness equal to that of good building stone, and are fit for use. This new stone is, in fact, a sort of brick or mortar baked at a low temperature, and the cost, too, is about the same as that of bricks.

The December Number of Petermann's *Mittheilungen* contains an interesting paper by Dr. Rholin on the Liyan Desert, in which he shows that it is the eastern part of the Sahara, and not the western, that is the real desert, broken only here and there by oases. Indeed, the extreme west of the Sahara, for a distance of from 400 to 500 kilometers from the coast, does not strictly belong to the desert at all; and even the eastern half, the more we know of it the more numerous are its oases found to be. There is an eclectic article on the Liu-Kiu Islands, by Dr. V. Kloden; a paper on the New Volcano on Lake Ilopango; and a map of the South Coast of Franz Josef Land, based on Mr. Leigh Smith's recent discoveries. In the *Monatsbericht* some interesting details are given of Dr. Juncker's journey to and his sojourn in the Niam-Niam country. A letter from Dr. Emin Bey, the Governor of the Egyptian Equatorial Province, informs us that Miesa, King of Uganda, whom Mr. Stanley so whitewashed, is as tyrannical and bloodthirsty as ever, and does not intend to be either Christianized or Mohammedanized, but to adhere to the ways of his forefathers. Dr. Emin is anxious that explorers should turn their attention to the Equatorial Province, which forms a splendid field for botanists, zoologists and other specialists.

PERSONAL GOSSIP.

THE will of the late E. A. Sothern leaves all the testator's property, including land in New York, to his sister, Mrs. Cowan.

MR. EUGENE SCHUYLER, United States Charge d'Affaires and Consul-general at the Court of Roumania, has formally presented his credentials to Prince Charles.

ADELINA PATTI has been singing at Nice, and Madame Blanche, of Monaco, has given to the prima donna a present of a handsome train of diamonds.

THE New England Agricultural Society recommends the appointment of George B. Loring, President of the Society, as National Commissioner of Agriculture, by President Garfield.

A REPUBLICAN contemporary makes this crisp comparison: "To talk about President Hayes being a friend of civil service is like claiming Bob Ingersoll to be an evangelical missionary."

MR. EDWIN BOOTH has been dining with the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, to meet Mr. Henry Irving. Mr. Booth is said to be in every way pleased with the results of his London engagement.

DR. J. HAMMOND TRUMBULL, of Hartford, Conn., the famous scholar in the Indian languages, has consented to supervise a part of a history of Hartford County, which will soon be printed in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the "Old Patent" of Connecticut—the Earl of Warwick's grant—signed on the 19th of March, 1631.

DR. OCTAVE PAVY, the *Gulnare's* surgeon, who remained in Greenland with Henry Clay, of Louisville, when the *Gulnare* returned home last Fall, writes that he intends to go north by water next Summer to deposit provisions at different points, intending to start north with dogs and sledges the *Winter* after, and he is hopeful that he may reach a high enough latitude to settle the question of an open polar sea.

By the death at Albany, N. Y., on January 23d, of Miss Catharine Quackenbush, at the age of eighty-eight years, a fortune of half a million will be distributed among her relatives. Captain S. P. Quackenbush, United States Navy, inherits about \$70,000; his nephew, John N. Quackenbush, of the Navy, one-third of that amount; the wife of Lieutenant Davis, United States Navy, a son of the late Admiral Davis, \$70,000; Miss Quackenbush, of this city, about \$25,000, etc. The deceased lived in a style of economy seldom practiced in our day. Her heirs are all "far-away cousins."

THE venerable Archbishop Purcell has suffered total paralysis of the left side, at his retreat, St. Martin's Convent, Brown County, Ohio. The prelate is now almost helpless, though his mind has not been at all affected by the affliction. As he is over eighty years old, his physicians have but little hope of his living much longer, especially as he has been much affected by the death of his brother, Father Edward Purcell, which took place two weeks ago. Ever since the appointment of Bishop Eilder as the coadjutor of the archdiocese, Archbishop Purcell has been practically deposed from power.

SIR GEORGE POMEROY COLLEY, who was recently defeated by the Boers at Drakenberg Pass, established a well-deserved reputation during the Ashantee campaign of 1873 as an administrator and staff officer. He served in the Caffre war of 1858-'60, and afterwards in the China war. When Lord Lytton was sent to India in 1876 General Colley went with him as his military secretary, and soon afterwards became his private secretary. He went to South Africa in 1879 as Sir Garnet Wolseley's chief of staff. His services in the British army have been recognized by rapid promotions and several decorations.

THE Empress of Austria has persisted in her projected hunting expedition to England, and Combermere Abbey has been taken for two months from February 1st, though her stay is not likely to exceed a month. This fine old place is very convenient for Sir Watkins' residence. The Cheshire and the North Shropshire parks, all of which afford fully as good sport as can be found in the more "fashionable" counties. The Empress, with her stud and retinue of nearly 100 persons, is expected in England during the third week in February. Lord Combermere is going to the West Indies for two months to visit his estates there.

ADVICES from New Mexico state that detectives have ascertained that Colonel Potter, of the United States Geological Survey, who has been missing since October last, was murdered and robbed by three Mexicans, while on duty in the field. One of the murderers was hanged a few days ago for horse-stealing, and another is now under arrest at Albuquerque. Colonel Potter was a member of one of the most distinguished families of Rhode Island, and he leaves an estimable wife, three lovely children and an elegant home at Newport. He was a member of Governor Van Zandt's personal staff during his three terms as Governor. He was a young man of more than ordinary ability and was respected by all his friends and acquaintances.

ONE of the most remarkable class of Scotch naturalists of which Edwards, who found in Mr. Smiles no admiring a biographer, is the most notable type, is at present in his eighty-seventh year, in receipt of parish relief in the County of Aberdeen. John Duncan, the Alford weaver and botanist, who recently presented to the University of Aberdeen an herbarium of nearly 1,200 British plants, collected by himself in all parts of North Britain, from the Tweed to Banffshire, is as remarkable in many respects for his devotion to the study of nature as either Edwards or Dick, or any other of the humble heroes of science of whom Mr. Smiles has written. A hard-working, spare-living man, who denied himself every luxury, save that of studying botany, he has, by advancing years, become incapable of pursuing his calling, his little fund of savings is exhausted, and an appeal is made in the Scotch papers by Mr. W. J. Jolly, Her Majesty's Inspector of Schools, Inverness, for subscriptions to enable the poor old botanist to end his days in comfort. To that appeal there ought to be a prompt and generous response.

OBITUARY.—January 20th.—General John Love, a veteran of the wars of Mexico and the rebellions, of heart disease, at Indianapolis; Rev. James M. Bruce, of Irvington, N. J., aged 63. January 30th.—John J. Willcock, a pioneer of Lancaster, O., at his home in that city; E. J. Bell, for twenty years past Clerk of the City Council and City Auditor of Danville, Va. January 31st.—Mrs. S. C. Hall, the popular English author, in London; Dr. H. A. Garlan, a distinguished linguist and House Surgeon of St. Vincent's Hospital, New York City. February 1st.—Dr. James O. Pond, ex-President of the Connecticut Senate, and for many years a practicing physician in New York City, aged 90; Martin R. Dennis, a well-known and highly esteemed citizen of Newark, N. J., aged 58; Charles Devlin, a well-known contractor of New York City, aged 75; Francis A. Durivage, a well-known writer of stories and poems, at New York, aged 66; Rev. Joseph Castle, D. D., the oldest and best-known preacher of the Philadelphia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, at Hestonville, Pa., aged 80. February 2d.—Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Taylor, pastor emeritus of the Bergen (N. J.) Reformed Church, aged 80. February 3d.—Rev. Dr. Edward A. Washburn, rector of Calvary Church, New York City, aged 61; Dr. Lloyd, the venerable Provost of Trinity College, Dublin; Rev. Dr. J. Lewis Dianian, Professor of History and Political Economy in Brown University, at Providence, R. I. February 4th.—Robert A. Fisher, President of the Board of Trade of Baltimore, suddenly of congestion of the lungs, aged 48.



PENNSYLVANIA.—NEW OIL EXCHANGE AT TITUSVILLE.
FROM A PHOTO. BY GOETCHIUS.

NEW OIL EXCHANGE AT TITUSVILLE,
PENNSYLVANIA.

THE new building of the Oil Exchange of Titusville, Pa., was opened to the public on Thursday, Jan. 27th. Twenty-one years ago oil exchanges were as undreamed of as oil speculation was unborn; but from the time the Drake well was struck,

back each side of the tower, and has a different style of dressing and decorations, yet kept in harmony and unity by continuous belt courses, dental work, etc. The tower is finished with high pointed roof, relieved with ornamented dormer, and terminated by high cresting and finials of special design. The windows are large, filled with polished plate glass, and are dressed with stone, the details of which are rich without being overloaded with

August, 1859, till the Church Run excitement had risen to large proportions, speculation in petroleum sprang up, and rapidly increased with the growth of oil development. Titusville was the centre of this speculation. It was there that the dealers and brokers lived, and what few might have resided elsewhere kept their agents constantly in Titusville.

On the 13th of March, 1871, an organization of operators started an Exchange in the Parshall House. This was the first Oil Exchange ever opened or thought of, and to Titusville, therefore, belongs the particular honor of being the mother of the Oil Exchanges. From the very first day of the opening, the large hallway, fronting on Spring Street, from which there was the same side entrance to the Exchange as is now to the dining-room, was thronged with oil men, particularly in the evenings, and it was with difficulty that one could pass through the crowd. In summer weather the sidewalks on Washington Street was also the scene of the liveliest animation, and in that respect was far ahead of anything that has been since seen around subsequently built Oil Exchanges.

The increase of business naturally demanded an increase of accommodations, and in January, 1880, it was decided to erect a building for the exclusive use of the Exchange. This structure is the one here illustrated. It stands on the old American House lot fronting on Spring Street, and extends through to Pine. The section fronting on Spring Street and the centre are each three stories in height, while the Exchange proper, extending to Pine Street, is only one story, with high walls and pitched roof. It is by far the most attractive structure in the city, and in point of elegance, artistic finish and taste, is superior to any building in the oil regions. A central projection or tower marks the main entrance, each side of which the openings and decorations are equally balanced. The materials are pressed brick, laid with black mortar joints, decorated with Ohio sandstone, sufficient in quantity to give proper effect of light and shade.

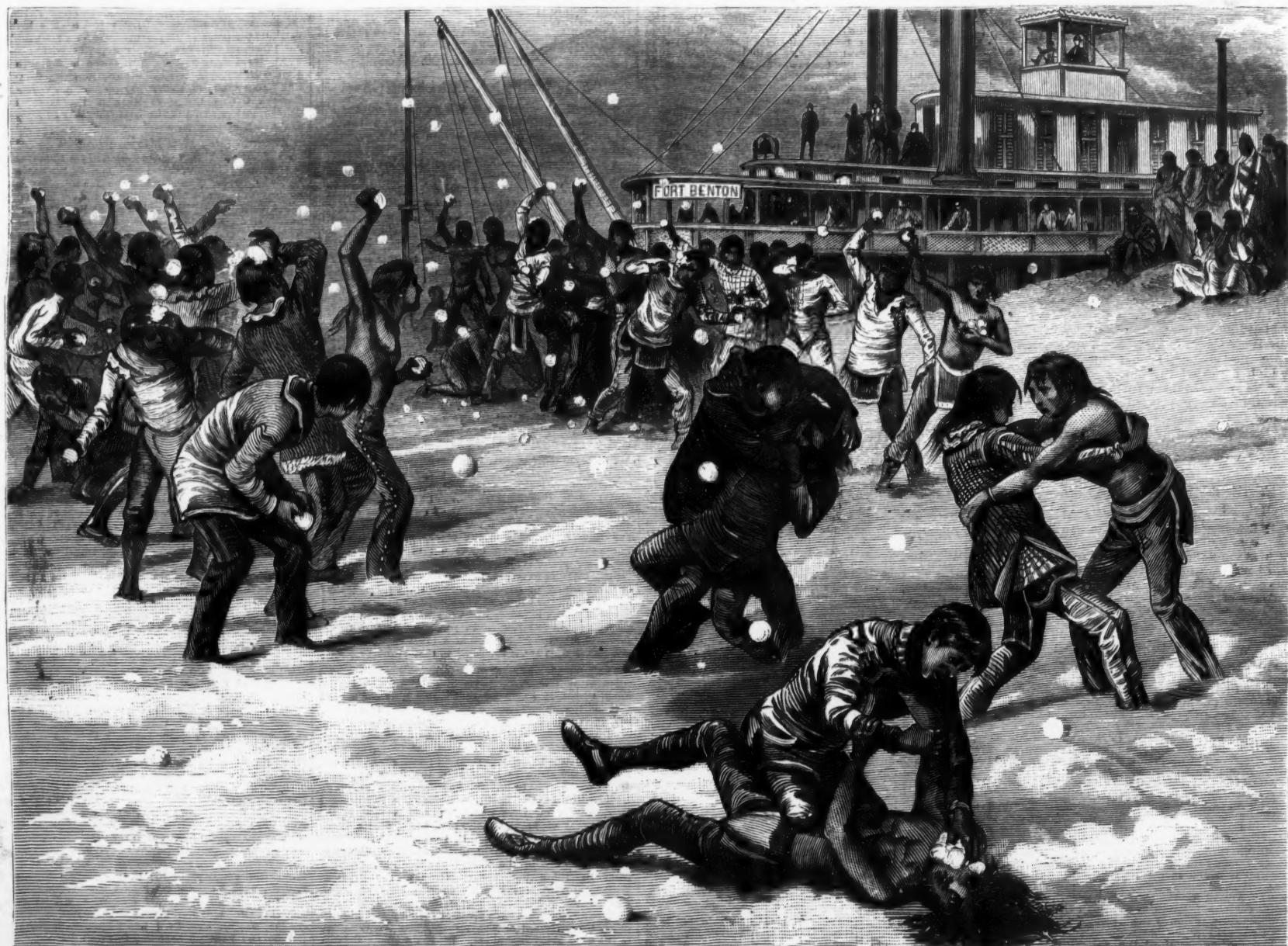
The heavy piers each side of the entrance arcade are enriched by heavy Quincy granite columns, engaged at cap and base, and supporting a heavy stone flat arch with enriched boisiures. Above this arch, and supported by massive stone corbels, is a heavy stone balustrade protecting the balcony of the second story. This is recessed and spanned by a rich stone lintel and cornice. To bring the central features of the facade into prominence the structure recedes or is dropped



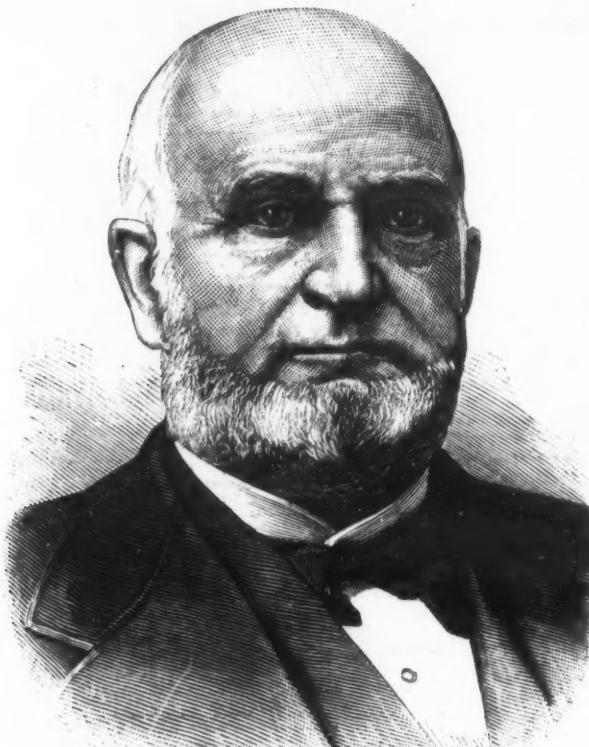
WASHINGTON TERRITORY.—THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND BELFRY
AT TACOMA.

A NOVEL CHURCH SPIRE.

SOME church spires have been caught in storms and laid level with the ground in a condition of great dilapidation; but such disaster is not likely to befall the neat little Episcopal Church at Tacoma, Washington Territory, an illustration of which is given herewith. The steeple-tower of this house of worship is believed to be the only one of its kind in



DAKOTA.—A SNOWBALL BATTLE BETWEEN INDIAN BOYS, ON THE BANKS OF THE RED RIVER OF THE NORTH.—FROM A SKETCH BY WALTER YOUNG.—SEE PAGE 415.

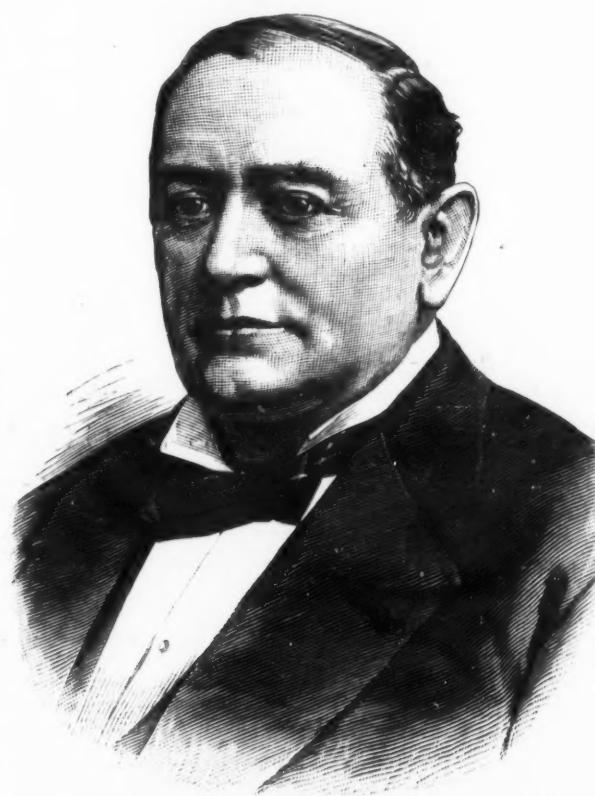


HON. PHILETUS SAWYER, UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM WISCONSIN.
FROM A PHOTO. BY ELY.

existence. It consists of a huge pine tree, the top of which has been cut off forty feet from the ground so as to form a belfry. The tree is twelve feet in diameter at its base, and seven feet at its present top. It was a proud day for the people of Tacoma when the sound of the church-going bell was first heard from the top of this substantial belfry. Tacoma is the centre of a busy lumbering region. There is a vast quantity of excellent timber in the giant pines which surround the village. The fashion in logs is to have them from ten to twelve feet through, and two hundred feet long.

HON. WILLIAM MAHONE,
UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM VIRGINIA.

GENERAL WILLIAM MAHONE, the new United States Senator from Virginia, whose position in that body has been the subject of much political controversy, was born in Southampton, Va., in 1827; was graduated from the Virginia Military Institute in 1847; and afterwards, until the outbreak of the war of secession, devoted himself to civil engineering. He was constructor of the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad. He embarked in the secession movement; took part in the capture of the Norfolk Navy Yard in 1861; raised and commanded the Sixth Virginia Regiment, and was with it in most of the battles in the Peninsula campaign, those of the Rappahannock and those around Petersburg. He was made both brigadier-general and major-general in the year 1864, and afterwards commanded a corps in Hill's division. At the close of the war he returned to railroad engineering, and in the course of time became president of a trunk line from Norfolk to Tennessee, over four hundred miles long. His railroad direction has given him a power in politics, which he has always exercised in a large and independent way, utterly baffling to the politicians of the old school, but often very useful to them. When the Democratic Party was at its wits' ends, and by every means possible was attempting to overthrow Republican rule in Virginia, it was Mr. Mahone who suggested that the Bourbons should indorse Mr. Walker, a Northern man, and an avowed Republican, as Governor. Walker proved to be all that Mahone had promised the Southerners. Since then, it is said, the Virginia railroad king has made Withers United States Senator and Kemper Governor of Virginia. The insolvency of his railroad subsequently led him into politics still more completely, and in default of securing the nomination for Governor for himself he turned it over to Holliday and elected him. Holliday having allied himself with Mahone's enemies, the latter entered the field again at the head of the "Readjusters," or conditional repudiators, and, elected by them and a number of colored and Republican members of the Virginia Legislature, he is now a United States Senator.



HON. WILLIAM S. STOKLEY, MAYOR OF PHILADELPHIA.
FROM A PHOTO. BY STOKES & LOTHROP.

Free Soil Democratic antecedents. In 1862 the district elected the Democratic candidate by a majority of over one thousand. Two years later, Mr. Sawyer consented to be a candidate, and was elected by a majority of about three thousand. From 1865 to 1875 he was continued in the House of Representatives, and retired, after a continuous service of ten years, only because he refused to be a candidate for re-election.

His record as a member of Congress is part of the history of that time. He was for one term chairman of the Committee on Government Expenditures. In the Forty-third Congress he was chairman of the Pacific Railroad Committee. Eight years he was on the Committee on Commerce. Six years he was the second member on the committee, and during a large portion of that time the acting chairman. Therefore, it became his duty several times to report and take charge of the Bills making appropriations for rivers and harbors, and a fair illustration of the confidence of his fellow-members is found in the fact that such Bills, appropriating millions, were sometimes passed under suspension of the rules, when reported and vouched for by him.

HON. H. E. JACKSON,
UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM TENNESSEE.

JUDGE HOWELL EDMUND JACKSON, who was elected United States Senator for Tennessee on January 25th, is a State Credit Democrat, and of such an unimpeachable character that the Republicans, to the number of eighteen, united with the Democrats in electing him. He was born in Paris, Tenn., April 8th, 1832. Eight years after his birth his parents removed to Jackson. He was graduated at West Tennessee College in 1848, and afterwards studied at the University of Virginia two years. After leaving the University he read law for two years in Jackson under his kinsmen, Judges A. W. O. Totten and Milton Brown. In 1855 he went to the Lebanon Law School, and, graduating one year later, began the practice of law in Jackson. He went to Memphis in 1859, and formed a partnership with David M. Curran. In the Winter of 1857 he was sent to New York by the Mississippi Central, now the Chicago, St. Louis and New Orleans Railroad Company, to negotiate the bonds of the company, which he did satisfactorily. He resumed practice in Memphis, forming a partnership with B. M. Estes, and afterwards with Mr. Ellet, when the firm name was



HON. J. N. CAMDEN, UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM WEST VIRGINIA.
FROM A PHOTO. BY MORA.—SEE PAGE 415.



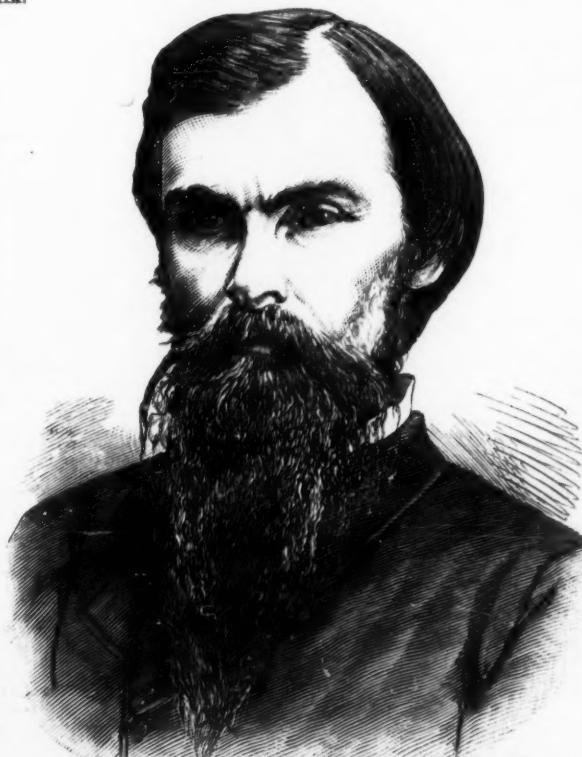
HON. HOWELL E. JACKSON, U. S. SENATOR FROM TENNESSEE.
FROM A PHOTO. BY ARMSTRONG.

changed to Estes, Jackson & Ellet. He married Mary Elizabeth, second daughter of General W. G. Harding, of Belle Meade Farm, by which marriage he has two daughters. Three years ago he was a prominent candidate for Supreme Judge before the nominating convention. In 1876 he removed to Jackson. He served on the Supreme Bench by appointment on two occasions. He was elected to the present Tennessee House of Representatives on the State Credit platform, was appointed on the Committee on Elections, and was also a member of the Judiciary Committee. He is a man of great purity of character, and will legislate, it is believed, for the best interests of the country. He is popular with both Democrats and Republicans.

HON. WILLIAM S. STOKLEY.

WILLIAM S. STOKLEY, who is now serving his third term as Mayor of Philadelphia, with the Republican nomination for a fourth, is a native of that city, having been born in Spruce Street, April 25th, 1823. At an early age he entered upon a business career, and by the time he was called to creditably sustained public service he had built up a prosperous establishment on Eighth Street. In 1860 he was elected a member of the City Council from the Ninth Ward, and by successive elections held the seat until 1866, serving as President of that body during the last two years of his service. In 1867 he was advanced to the Select branch, becoming its President in 1868. From the outset of his career he had shown efficiency, thorough independence and a high order of courage. The scene in the Select Council Chamber on the 21st of November, 1867, when President Stokley, leaving the chair, offered in person the memorable Bill for the reform of the fire department, is said to have been exciting and impressive beyond comparison. Every form of vituperation, menace, sneer and threat that the language can express, was hurled at the proposer of the Bill. After the demonstration had partially exhausted itself, President Stokley commanded instant and continuous silence under penalty of employing his official prerogative to clear the galleries by arresting the offenders. He then not only read the Bill, but followed it by a ringing speech, in which the demand of the community for law, order and justice was so forcibly presented, and the warning from the audacious outbreak they had just witnessed so solemnly urged, that his eloquence and pluck carried his colleagues with him, and the ordinance passed.

On January 16th, 1868, he caused to be introduced in the Common Council an ordinance (prepared under his personal direction by his own private counsel), which provided for the transfer of the Philadelphia Gas Works to the city; for their subsequent care and management under a Department of Gas; for the



HON. WILLIAM MAHONE, UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM VIRGINIA.
FROM A PHOTO. BY BRADY.

election of the Chief Engineer by Councils (who should nominate such other officers as were necessary, by and with the advice and consent of the Select Council), and for the transfer of the Sinking Fund to the city. On the 23d of that month it passed the Common Council, and was immediately sent to the Select Chamber, where, on the 30th, President Stockley called it up, and pushed it through a third reading, under a suspension of the rules, to a final passage, by a vote of 23 yeas to 3 nays. February 1st it received the Mayor's signature and became a law. Subsequently the subject was taken before the Supreme Court of the State, eminent legal talent being employed by the Gas Trust, and this reform measure was defeated by the Court affirming the decision in the case of the Western Saving Fund vs. the City, deciding that the city was bound by its contract until all of the original bonds were liquidated.

These are but samples of the vigorous efforts he has made in behalf of municipal reform. Those efforts were so thoroughly appreciated that he was elected Mayor of the city October 10th, 1871, and was inaugurated on the first day of January, 1872. He was re-elected February 17th, 1874, for a second term, to begin on the first day of January, 1875. He was again re-elected February 20th, 1877, to enter his third term on the first day of January, 1878.

In June, 1872, less than six months after his inauguration, the stokers and helpers employed by the Gas Trust made a demand for an increase of wages; it was refused. Threats were made, and violence menaced; serious trouble was expected. The next day after the final refusal, four hundred of them congregated in the vicinity of the Market Street Works, organized a strike, and were marching to those located on Callowhill Street to persuade or force the men there to join them, when they were met by the Mayor at the head of a posse of police. He halted them, arrested the ringleaders and dispersed the rest without ceremony. No riot acts were read, no eloquence wasted. He then took possession of the vacated works—some of the police who were practical stokers, taking off their uniforms and going to work—protected by the force, and manufactured gas for eight days, and that during the sitting of the Convention which nominated General Grant, so that the city did not lose a dollar by destruction of property, nor its citizens a moment of light.

His labors as chief magistrate of the city during the Centennial Exhibition, and his official course in regard to the variety theatres, the Sunday liquor law, the great railroad strikes, the organization of the paid fire department and the public departments of the city—all subjects of enviable record—have commended him most gratefully to the esteem and support of his fellow-citizens.

A fourth successive nomination for the Mayoralty of a large and growing city like Philadelphia is an honor of which any man might be proud, and an equivalent to the commendation, "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

THE GOVERNMENT CHEMIST'S REPORT ON BAKING POWDERS.

To the Editor of *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*.

The recent publication of the report, giving the comparative merits of various Baking Powders, according to tests made by the Government Chemist, has induced some of the manufacturers of brands, whose inferiority was thus brought to light, to resort to various means and publications in order to rid themselves of the results of that unfavorable exposition of their inferiority.

That the public may fully understand the matter, and to avoid any misconception arising out of statements of our competitors, seeking to break the force of the report, I herewith subjoin the main part of the report, in which the comparative values are correctly given.

Dr. Love's tests were made to determine what brands are the most economical to use. And as their capacity lies in their leavening power, tests were directed solely to ascertain the available gas of each powder.

Name of the Baking Powders.	Available Gas, Cubic inches, per each oz. Powder.	Worth per Pound.
"Royal" (cream tartar powder)	127.4	50 cts.
"Rumford's" (phosphate) fresh	122.5	48 cts.
"Rumford's" (phosphate) old	32.7	13 cts.
"Hanford's" None Such	121.6	47% cts.
"Bedheads".....	117.0	46 cts.
"Charm" (alum powder)	116.9	46 cts.
"Amazon" (alum powder)	111.9	44 cts.
"Cleveland's" (short weight $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.)	110.8	43 cts.
"Czar".....	106.8	42 cts.
"Price's Cream".....	102.6	40 cts.
"Lewis's" condensed.....	98.2	38% cts.
"Andrew's Pearl".....	93.2	36% cts.
"Hecker's Perfect".....	92.8	36 cts.

NOTE.—I regard all alum powders as very unwholesome. Phosphate and tartar acid powders liberate their gas too freely in process of baking, or under varying climatic changes suffer deterioration.

EDW. G. LOVE, Ph. D.

It is proper to state that all the powders examined were from the open market, and that the original labels were, in every case, broken by Dr. Love himself. He also informs me that he, himself, purchased the can of Royal Baking Powder at the store of Park & Tilford.

Now I have only to add, that for twenty years the Royal Baking Powder has been before the public, and it is to-day the standard for purity and excellence throughout the world. Because of its intrinsic merit, and by virtue of honorable enterprise, the Royal Baking Powder has taken this rank, and I am therefore not surprised to find adventures in the business anxious to assume their preparations to be its equal.

J. C. HOAGLAND,
President Royal Baking Powder Company.
NEW YORK, February 5th, 1881.

BOOK NOTICE.

THE LIFE OF EDGAR ALLEN POE. By William Faring Gill. New York: W. J. Widdleton.

To the student of American literature, the "Life of Edgar Allan Poe," by William Faring Gill, is indeed a veritable *bois de bouche*. This able, conscientious and exhaustive work has already reached its fifth edition, and there is no reason why it should not arrive at its tenth on the merits alone.

The story of Poe's life is told in a right masterful way, and in a manner which renders its perusal a treat of earnest pleasure, albeit the tale is as mournful as it is true.

Mr. Gill has treated the subject in an equitable and very just way, and has done good service to literature by his consistent yet firm handling.

All the conclusions which he has arrived at he sustains, and it is evident that he approached the work with that thoroughness which bespeaks the labor of love. Mr. Gill has very judiciously divided the subject-matter into chapters, each chapter being devoted to a section of Poe's life. Chapter I. contains a highly interesting description of the ill-fated poet's "Ancestry"; Chapter II., his "Childhood"; Chapter III., his "Early Hardships," and thus to the end. The volume is profusely illustrated, and contains several *fac-simile* letters which are of more than common interest.

We bid gracious welcome to our new and youthful *confére*, the *Studio and Musical Review*, the first number of which has just reached us. The *habitués* of the studio and the music-room have long felt the want of an organ like that which Mr. Alvan S. Southworth has now launched, and supported as he is by some of the best literary talent in the country, the new journal cannot fail to attain a marked success. The public will be pleased with the an-

nouncement that Mr. Southworth will publish "an honest paper—an arena for the contests of the artistic athletes of America." *The Studio and Musical Review* will be no organ for clique nor faction, and its columns are open alike to the brightest ornament and humblest factor in American art. We are glad to perceive that Mr. Southworth publishes communications from special correspondents at all our musical centres.

FUN.

THE SIGN "Beware of Dog" is stuck up that he who reads may run.

SHIPWRECKED sailors never need starve while there is a bight of rope left.

"I've tried all sorts of things," said Tom, "and the only one that answered was Echo."

PHILADELPHIA has an Oil City, and why shouldn't Massachusetts call New Bedford the Spermaceti?

A HARDEDEN sinner contends that the Ten Commandments are not binding. They were tabled, he says, long ago.

"Far from the old fox at home" was what the young fox said when he was chased from his cover and had to run ten miles before he got to his hole.

AN UP-TOWN minister, who is very popular as a performer of the marriage ceremony, is known as "Old Watermelon" because he doubles people up.

A MAN who has a mule for sale, hearing that a friend wanted to buy one, telegraphed him: "Dear friend: If you are looking for a No. 1 mule, don't forget me."

WHEN you hear a man say that snow-balling is a healthy amusement, and the boys ought to be allowed to enjoy it, don't think him a generous soul; set that man down as a glazier.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHER (proverbially): "Boys, do you know what day this is?" *Street Boy*: "Hi, fellers! here's a cove that don't know what day this is! I guess he been out all night."

SYMPATHY.—*Picture Dealer*: "Ah—in early life I might have been an artist!" *Painter*: "Lori! Wh! a pity you weren't!—iut-tt-t! Could have bought your own pictures, y' know!"

SUBTLE DISCRIMINATION.—*Ethel* (to Jack, who has been put into the corner by the new governess): "I'm so sorry for you, Jack!" *Jack*: "Bosh! who cares? This ain't a real corner, you know!"

AN OLD lady in a town of Massachusetts refused the gift of a load of wood from a tree struck by lightning, through fear that some of the "fluid" might remain in the wood, and cause disaster to her kitchen stove.

"YOU will have a very easy time of it here, as we have no children to worry you," said a lady to a colored woman she was about to hire. "Don't restrict yourself, missus, on my account, because I see fond of chiluns, I is."

CHANGE OF NAME.—"What! Call this the Aquarium!" cried Uncle Peter, as he gazed upon Cetwayo's sphylin-like daughters and their dusky-skinned attendants. "Aquarium! I should have thought it was the Zuluogical Gardens."

NOT THE RIGHT ANIMAL.—*Teacher*: "John, what are your boots made of?" *Boy*: "Of leather." *Teacher*: "Where does the leather come from?" *Boy*: "From the hide of the ox." *Teacher*: "What animal, therefore, supplies you with boots and gives you meat to eat?" *Boy*: "My father."

A SOUTH END teacher, in her little holiday vacation speech to her pupils recently, trusted they would come back resolving that their behavior should be unexceptional, and that they would give up all bad habits, when a little girl in the back of the room jumped up and said: "The same to you, ma'am."

"WHAT" asked a Sunday-school teacher, "is that invisible power that prevents the wicked man from sleeping and causes him to toss about upon his pillow, and what should he do to enjoy that peace that passeth understanding?" "Sew up the hole in the mosquito bar," was the prompt answer from the bad boy at the foot of the class.

THE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.

THE annual statement of the MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, of New York, which, in detail, will be found in another column, reflects in striking terms the general prosperity of the business of the country, and exemplifies in an equally forcible manner the ability and integrity with which this great corporation is managed. The payments to policy-holders last year exceeded thirteen millions of dollars, or considerably over forty thousand dollars for every working day in the year. Deducting, however, this magnificent sum and all other disbursements for taxes, expenses, etc., the enormous balance of over eighty-seven million dollars is carried forward to the new account for the current year, the total assets running up nearly to ninety-two millions of dollars. It should be borne in mind that these assets are all actual and tangible—not "water" of its own or other manufacture—and it must be gratifying to the policy-holders in the MUTUAL to feel that, as far as human ability and foresight can go, their investments for those depending on them are absolutely safe and impregnable. No company approaches the MUTUAL in the magnitude of its business, and none exceeds it in vitality and integrity.

IT is as natural for people to like flowers as it is for flowers to spring up all over the fair earth, and the study of horticulture has accomplished wonders in the line of making home cheerful and life worth the living. It is only by reading carefully such a unique encyclopedia of the field, farm and garden as the *Hand-book of B. K. Bliss & Sons for 1881*, that people other than professional cultivators may derive an idea of the immense varieties of seeds and bulbs that delight the eye, gratify the sense of smell, and find hearty appreciation in the stomach. The work is profusely illustrated, and gives every possible bit of information that either the amateur or the professional gardener and farmer could wish.

THE MECHANICS FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY of Philadelphia has elected Francis McManus, the well-known contractor, president in place of the late Bernard Rafferty, who had held the office since 1870, and had been identified with the Company from its beginning. New directors have been added, and the MECHANICS FIRE appears well founded, and its insurance is one of the soundest and most prosperous companies.

THE BOUND BROOK ROUTE between New York and Philadelphia has lately added several new trains, on account of the increase of business. New and elegant passenger coaches, of novel and improved design, have been placed on the line, making it second to none in its general equipment. Its previous reputation for fast and frequent trains is fully maintained, and being the pioneer in *fast trains and reduced rates*, has the commendation of the traveling public of the two great cities.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE FOR NERVOUSNESS.

JOHN Y. SIMSTON, M.D., of Monterey, Iowa, said: The "Acid has—*to use the lady's own expression*, to whom it was given as a Nerve Tonic—made me a new nervous system."

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We do a general commission business in all Stocks and Bonds dealt in at the New York Stock Exchange, and in other sound and marketable securities.

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One of our firm is a member of the Stock Exchange, and the execution of all orders receives our personal attention.

We give special attention to orders from Banks, Banks, Institutions and Investors out of the city, by Mail or Telegraph, to buy or sell Government Bonds, State and Railroad Bonds, Bank Stocks, Railroad Stocks, and other securities.

Copies of the Eighth Edition of "Memoranda Concerning Government Bonds" can be had on application.

FISK & HATCH.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES will stop a COUGH by directly relieving the irritation of the Throat, and will not disorder the stomach like cough syrups. Twenty-five cents a box.

GENEVIEVE WARD.

MESSRS. RIKER & SON: BOOTH'S THEATRE. I have given a free trial to your FACE POWDER, and am pleased to add my testimony as to its excellence. Yours truly, GENEVIEVE WARD.

USE Redding's Russia Salve."

ANGOSTURA BITTERS are indorsed by all the leading physicians and chemists, for their purity and wholesomeness. Beware of counterfeits, and ask your grocer and druggist for the genuine article, prepared by Dr. J. G. B. Siegert & Sons.

A BOOK OF CHOICE CHOCOLATE RECEIPTS will be sent, on receipt of a postal card giving your address, to WALTER BAKER & CO., Chocolate Manufacturers, of Dorchester, Mass., who have just entered upon the second century of their business career.

With all the convenience, comfort and appliances of a first-class hotel, which it is, the ST. NICHOLAS HOTEL, in New York, united advantages that render it unusually desirable, especially to those who visit New York with their wives and families. Its very central location and its efficient management are features that make the ST. NICHOLAS a popular as well as comfortable home for the traveler, and one from which none go away dissatisfied.

Baker's Emulsion quickly checks Night Sweats and Coughs, and restores strength. Incipient Lung Troubles yield at once. Valuable in Hemorrhages. A trial pleasant and benefit certain. Ask your druggist for Baker's Emulsion, made by JOHN C. BAKER & CO., Philadelphia.

THE H. W. Johns Mfg. Co.'s new colors of Asbestos Liquid Paints are particularly appropriate for large structures, such as manufactorys, churches, bridges, etc. We advise all owners of such buildings which require painting to send for samples.

EPPS'S COCOA. GRATEFUL—COMFORTING.

By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast-tables with a delicately flavored beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—*Civil Service Gazette*.

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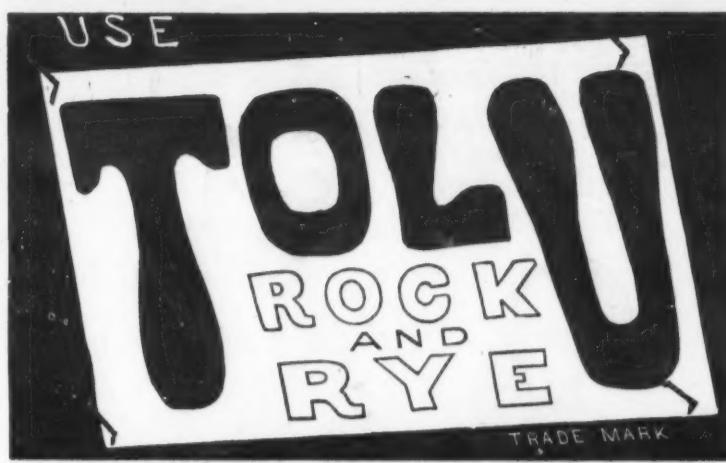
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F. S. WINSTON, President.

For the Year ending December 31st, 1880.

ASSETS \$91,735,786.02

Annuity Account.

No.	ANN. PAY'TS.	No.	ANN. PAY'TS.
Annuities in force, Jan. 1st, 1880. 49	\$18,504.97	Annuities in force, Jan. 1st, 1881. 52	\$20,141.81
Premium Annuities 9	5,289.31	Premium Annuities 6	4,492.05
Annuities Issued 9	3,861.53	Annuities Terminated 6	3,021.94

58 \$27,655.80 58 \$27,655.80

Insurance Account.

No.	AMOUNT.	No.	AMOUNT.
Policies in force, Jan. 1st, 1880. 95,423	\$298,760,867	Policies in force, Jan. 1st, 1881. 97,978	\$306,002,164
Risks Assumed 10,106	33,700,759	Risks Terminated 7,551	26,459,464

105,529 \$332,461,626 105,529 \$332,461,626

Revenue Account.

Dr.	Revenue	Cr.
To Balance from last account.....	\$85,765,515.68	By paid Death Claims \$4,324,447.93
" Premiums received.....	13,275,589.16	" Matured Endowments 1,613,741.04
" Interest and Rents.....	4,865,105.45	(Total claims— \$5,938,188.97)
		23,993.88
		3,299,734.00
		3,898,777.61
		(Total paid Policy-holders— \$13,160,694.46)
		677,255.70
		949,512.43
		247,832.69
		742,673.71
		Balance to New Account 87,128,241.30
		\$102,906,210.29

Dr. Balance Sheet.

Dr.	Balance	Cr.
To Reserve at four per cent.....	\$86,642,571.30	By Bonds Secured by Mortgages on Real Estate \$35,524,916.64
" Claims by death not yet due.....	721,996.04	" United States and other Bonds 19,016,202.00
" Premiums paid in advance.....	26,451.52	" Loans on Collaterals 7,720,031.94
" Surplus and Contingent Guarantee Fund 4,314,767.16		" Cash in Banks and Trust Companies at interest 7,174,134.10
		" Interest accrued 1,051,180.92
		" Premiums deferred, quarterly and semi-annual 1,381,371.87
		" Premiums in transit, principally for December 834,440.82
		" Balances due by Agents 116,330.03
		15,977.72
		\$91,735,786.02

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